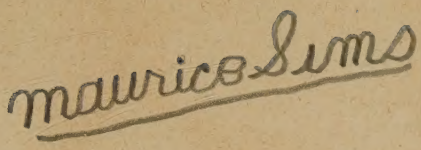
HIGHROADS OF HISTORY

THIRD BOOK

THOMAS NELSON AND SONS LTD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Cardinal Wolsey on his Way to Westminster Hall.

(*From the picture by Sir John Gilbert, R.A., in the Guildhall Art Gallery, London.*)

THE ROYAL SCHOOL SERIES

Highroads of History

Illustrated by the great Historical Paintings of
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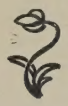

Book III.—Britons of Renown

THOMAS NELSON AND SONS, LTD.
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Book III.

1. A WARRIOR QUEEN.—I.

1. You already know something about the Britons of far-off days. You know that they were farmers, herdsmen, and hunters. You know that they lived in villages of huts, and that these huts stood in clearings made in the dense forests which covered most of the land.

2. The Britons were not a united people, as we are to-day. They were divided into many tribes, each with its own chief or "king." Some of these kings ruled over kingdoms which were very small indeed. They were always quarrelling with each other, and fighting was very common.

3. A British tribe in the olden days was rich or poor according to the amount of wheat-land and the number of cattle which it owned. The tribes fought to win more wheat-land and more cattle.

4. In the olden days most of the wars in every country arose in the same way. Julius Cæsar, the great Roman general, invaded Gaul, the country now known as France, in order to win its wheat-fields for Rome. While he was conquering the land, he found that the Britons were helping

their kinsmen, the Gauls. He therefore made up his mind to invade Britain and punish the islanders.

5. He first crossed the Channel with his soldiers fifty-five years before the birth of Christ. The Britons met him on the shore, and fought very bravely; but the well-drilled Roman soldiers, fighting shoulder to shoulder, soon drove them back. Cæsar, however, found that he had not enough soldiers to conquer the land, and went back to Gaul.

6. Next year he came again with an army twice as large as before. Again he overcame the Britons. He pushed his way into the forests, crossed the Thames, and burned the villages of some of the kings. They yielded to him, and said that they would pay tribute to Rome. Then Cæsar and his soldiers went back to Gaul. They had only been two months in Britain.

7. A hundred years passed away before Roman soldiers were again seen in our island. In the meantime Gaul had become a part of the Roman Empire, just as South Africa is a part of the British Empire to-day. There was a good deal of traffic between Gaul and Britain, and between Britain and Rome. Britons visited Rome, and Romans visited Britain.

8. The traders who found their way across the Channel exchanged the goods of Southern Europe for the tin, wheat, and hides of Britain. In this way the people of South-eastern Britain became less and less savage. They gave up painting their bodies with woad, and began to wear clothing.

9. Now we come to the real Roman conquest of Britain, which took place about one hundred years after the raids of Julius Cæsar. A British king, named Cymbeline, had put

down a number of smaller kings, and had become the most powerful man in South-eastern Britain. Under his rule the country was peaceful.

10. When he died the smaller kings began to quarrel among themselves. Some of them sent to ask the Roman emperor to help them against their enemies. This gave the Romans an excuse for conquering our island.

11. In the year 43 A.D. a Roman army landed on the shores of Kent. The Britons were so divided amongst themselves that they were unable to stand against the Romans. Before long all the country lying between the Wash and Southampton Water was in the hands of the invaders.

12. The Britons were quite ready to fight against the Romans, and fight bravely, too ; but they had no great grievance to bind them together, and no strong chief to lead them. They were soon to have both. They were to be stirred to war by a great wrong, and they were to be led to battle by a Warrior Queen.

2. A WARRIOR QUEEN.—II.

1. Look at the picture on the next page. It shows you a statue which has been set up in London. I dare say some of the boys and girls who read this book have seen it for themselves.

2. It is a statue of a Warrior Queen in her war-chariot. The Britons always used chariots of this kind in their battles. You notice that the chariot is a kind of low cart

BOADICEA.

(*From the statue by Thomas Thornycroft, R.A.*)

with solid wooden wheels. It is said that the scythes fastened to the axles were used to mow down the foe.

3. Now look at the Warrior Queen. You see that she is urging on her soldiers to the fight. Who was this Warrior Queen? How came she to be leading men to war?

4. Her name was Boadicea, which means much the same as Victoria. She was queen of the British tribe of the Iceni, who dwelt in what are now the counties of Norfolk and Suffolk. The Romans were then masters of the land. They were very harsh and cruel to the Britons.

5. Boadicea was a widow. Her husband had left half of his wealth to the Roman emperor, and half to his two daughters. He did this in the hope that the Romans would protect his wife and children when he was dead. The Romans, however, were so greedy that they seized the whole of the late king's wealth.

6. Not content with this, they beat the queen with rods and treated her two daughters most shamefully. This roused Boadicea to bitter anger. She called her people together, and spoke to them in burning words.

7. She told them how cruelly she and her daughters had been treated, and urged them to unite and overcome the Romans. "Freedom," she cried, "is better than wealth! Slavery is worse than death! The Romans make us both beggars and slaves. Follow me, and we will drive these robbers out of the land. Let us die rather than submit!"

8. A cry of rage ran through the crowd. They struck their shields with their swords, and vowed that they would fight and die for their queen and country.

9. Not only did the Iceni rise, but nearly all the other tribes in the east of Britain rose too. They were all eager to throw off the Roman yoke. They chose their time well. The Roman general was away putting down the Druids in the Isle of Anglesey, then called Mona. He could not possibly return for several weeks.

10. At once the Britons marched against the Roman camps, which were guarded only by old soldiers. They took the camps, and slew almost every man, woman, and child in them. For a short time the Roman power in Britain seemed to have come to an end.

11. When the Roman general heard of the rising he hastened to London, gathering soldiers by the way. He had only ten thousand men to oppose more than twenty thousand Britons. The Romans, however, were better drilled and better armed than the Britons, and their general was an old and tried soldier.

12. The battle was soon over. The British were put to flight, and eight thousand of their dead strewed the battle-field.

13. All hope was gone, and Boadicea made up her mind that she would not fall into the hands of her cruel foes. She took poison and died. Some say that she poisoned her daughters as well.

14. The poor Warrior Queen, however, did not fight and die in vain. The Romans learned a lesson from the rising. They learned that it was their harsh treatment which drove the Britons to arms. After Boadicea's death they sent a new governor to the island, and he treated the Britons much more kindly.

AGRICOLA'S WALL.
Map showing the position of the line of forts erected by Agricola. Some fifty years later a new line of forts, called "Antonine's Wall," was built on the same site.

3. A GREAT AND GOOD GOVERNOR.

1. The Romans were masters of Britain for about four hundred years. During that time many Roman governors ruled over our land. The best of them was Julius Agricola.

2. We know little or nothing of many of the Roman governors of Britain, but we know a great deal about Julius Agricola. His son-in-law was Tacitus, a famous writer of history. He wrote the life of his father-in-law, and this work is to be found in our libraries to-day.

3. The book tells us that Julius Agricola was an officer in the Roman army which overcame the British when they rose under Boadicea. He was a fine soldier and a brave, clever man. His general thought so well of him that he allowed him to share his tent.

4. After the great fight Julius Agricola went back to Rome. At last he was chosen to be Governor of Britain, and for seven years he worked hard for the good of our land.

5. His first task was to make the country peaceful. He knew that the risings of the Britons were caused by the

THE EMPEROR HADRIAN VISITING A POTTERY IN BRITAIN.
(*From the picture by Sir Lawrence Alma Tadema, R.A. By kind permission of the Artist.*)

Druids. He therefore overcame them in their island-home of Mona.

6. Then he turned to the tribes of North Britain. These people were very wild and warlike. They were just as fierce and savage as the Britons of the south had been in years gone by. Again and again they pushed their way into South Britain, and wherever they went they slew the people and burned their homesteads.

7. Agricola built a line of forts between the Forth and the Clyde, but this did not keep back the North Britons. Then he led his soldiers as far north as to the foot of the Grampians. There he met the fierce men of Scotland, and beat them in a great battle.

8. Agricola had also to fight in South Britain, where he overthrew the British on many battlefields. He was, however, far more than a conqueror. He was a just and fair ruler. He did not rob the Britons and treat them harshly, as other governors had done. By his fairness and wisdom he made the people contented with the Roman rule.

9. His ships sailed round Britain, and discovered that it was an island. He built schools, and had the sons of the chiefs taught to read and write and speak Latin. He got them to give up their rude way of living and to imitate the Romans in all things.

10. Before long the British chiefs wore the Roman dress, spoke Latin, and amused themselves in the Roman manner. They scorned the name of Briton, and were proud to call themselves Romans.

11. Agricola also had the people taught the art of build-

ing, and in course of time towns, temples, and fine dwellings arose. He also had them taught glass-making and pottery and other useful arts. The picture on page 14 shows you a Roman emperor visiting a British pottery.

12. Roads were made, bridges were built, the fields were tilled as they had never been tilled before. Mines were dug, and rich metals were got from them. Shiploads of cattle, hides, wheat, barley, iron, and tin were sent away every year to the great city on the Tiber.

13. Though Agricola taught the Britons many things, he took care not to teach them how to fight. The Roman soldiers did that for them. The Britons thus lost their old warlike ways.

14. Agricola won great renown in Britain, and his fellow-Romans were very proud of him. Unfortunately, the Emperor of Rome at that time was a weak, foolish man. He became jealous of Agricola, and took away his governorship. Agricola died in Rome some years later.

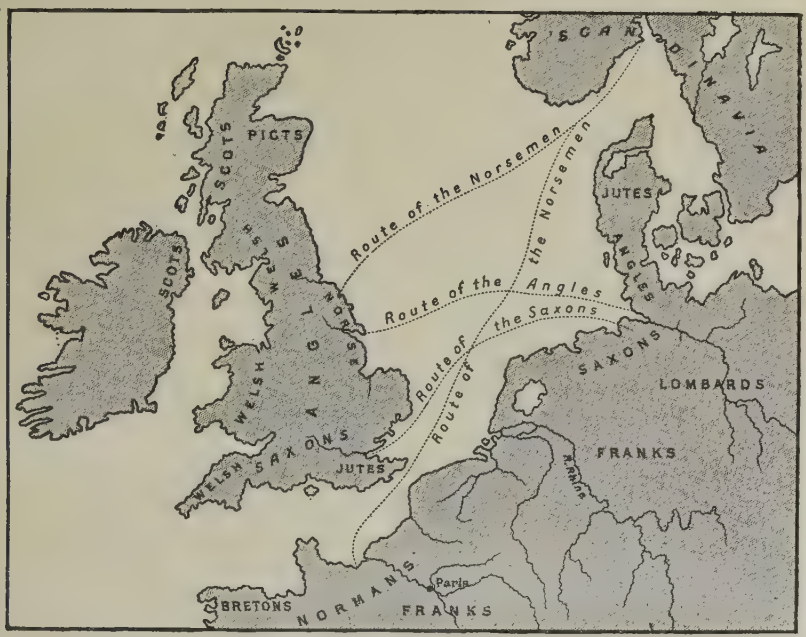
4. IDA OF BERNICIA.

1. You already know that about the year 410 the Romans were obliged to leave Britain. Rome herself was being attacked by fierce, wild tribes. She needed every man that she could muster to defend herself against her foes.

2. When the Romans left the country the Britons were in a terrible plight. The Picts and Scots rushed upon them like hungry wolves. The Britons struggled hard against their cruel enemies, but without success.

3. Now in this terrible time new and even more dreaded foes appeared. These were English pirates, who crossed the North Sea in their warships, and fell upon the helpless Britons with axe and sword.

4. You remember reading in Book I. how Vortigern, the King of Kent, invited two of these pirate chiefs, named



MAP SHOWING THE HOME OF THE ENGLISH (ANGLES, SAXONS, AND JUTES).

Hengist and Horsa, to help him to overcome the Picts and Scots. They did so; and when they had driven off the northern tribes, they turned their arms against their employer, and took his land for themselves.

5. They then sent across the sea for their wives and children, and settled down in Kent. They were not sorry to leave their old home. It was a poor and overcrowded

land, and Britain was a rich and fertile country. This was the first English settlement made in Britain.

6. Other chiefs followed with their war bands, and won parts of the land for themselves. They slew most of the Britons. Those who were left alive were made slaves, or were driven into the rugged mountains of the west. Less than one hundred and fifty years after the Romans had left the country, it was no longer Britain but England.

7. I cannot stay to tell you the story of the many bands of English who came across the sea to win a part of Britain for themselves. I will tell you how a chief named Ida won Bernicia, the country which lies between the river Tees and the Firth of Forth. From his story you will learn how the English conquered Britain.

8. On the coast of Northumberland there is a huge rock, rising about one hundred and fifty feet above the sea that tumbles and foams beneath it. This rock is now called Bamborough. On it stands a grand old castle. Parts of it have kept watch and ward over the rugged coast for more than nine hundred years.

9. About the year 547 A.D. a fleet of English pirate ships drew near to this rock. There were forty ships, and they were under the command of a great warrior, named Ida. With him came his twelve sons. They seized the rock, and at once built on it a rude fortress, in which they were safe from attack.

10. Then Ida gathered his men together, and they marched inland. They swooped down on peaceful villages, slew men, women, and children, and set fire to houses and barns.

Bamburgh Castle.

(*From the painting by W. A. Nesfield in the South Kensington Museum.*)

11. Day by day they did their terrible work, and wherever they went the smoke of burning homesteads was seen. Ida is sometimes called the "Flame-bearer," but the name really belonged to his son Theodric.

5. THE "FLAME-BEARER."

1. In a few years Ida was master of a northern kingdom, and before he died he ruled over all the land from the Tees to the Forth. He made his capital on the rock which he had first seized.

2. His men and their families settled down on the land. They built their villages, they tilled their fields and grazed their cattle, just as they used to do in the old home across the North Sea. They spoke their own tongue, they had their own laws, they lived in their own way. For a long time nothing was changed except the land in which they lived.

3. The English settlers, however, had still much fighting to do. The Britons rose again and again, and the land was never really peaceful while Ida lived. He was a fighter all the days of his life, and he died on the field of battle.

4. At last the Britons, under a chief called Urien, united against the English. One Saturday night the forces of the "Flame-bearer" and Urien met in a place known as the "Pleasant Valley." The English called upon the Britons to yield, but Urien refused with brave words.

5. Then Urien turned to his brother-chiefs and said, "Let each warrior raise his spear above his head and rush upon the 'Flame-bearer.' Let us slay him and his followers."

6. With loud shouts the Britons rushed forward, and the battle began. Men fought to the death ; no quarter was given on either side. The field was covered with dead and wounded, the green turf of the Pleasant Valley was stained with blood.

7. After a long and fierce fight the English were beaten. The Britons were very proud of their victory, and their bards sang songs in praise of the victors. Soon, however, Urien was killed by a traitor, and then evil times came for the Britons.

8. The "Flame-bearer" won battle after battle. At last the Britons united once more and made a final effort to overthrow him. An old poem tells us that three hundred and threescore British chiefs took part in the fight.

9. All night long the nobles sat drinking mead, and at the first streak of dawn they set out to meet the English. They had boasted while drinking that they would race with each other towards the enemy, and see who would be the first to dye his sword in English blood.

10. The onset was terrible ; but the English stood firm, and plied axe and sword on their half-drunken foes. Before mid-day the battle was over. Of the three hundred and threescore chiefs who rushed to battle only three escaped.

11. Six of Ida's sons followed him on the throne, and the kingdom gradually grew larger and more powerful. Ethelfrith, his grandson, seized the kingdom which lay between the Tees and the Humber, and added it to his own.

12. The rightful heir to this kingdom was Edwin, the Christian king about whom you read in Book II. His ally,

Redwald, defeated Ethelfrith in a great battle, and Edwin afterwards became the most powerful king in England.

13. Now, this story of Ida teaches you that England was conquered by bands of English, and that many small kingdoms were set up, each with a king of its own. When these kings had overcome the natives of the land, they began quarrelling with each other. Gradually the stronger kings swallowed up the weaker kings, until a few powerful rulers were left fighting for the mastery. Sometimes one kingdom gained the upper hand, sometimes another.

14. At last, in the year 823, King Egbert, who ruled Wessex—that is, all England south of the Thames except Cornwall—became the chief king in England. The other kings were obliged to own him as their lord. We may regard Egbert as the first "King of the English."

6. THE STORY OF AIDAN.—I.

1. I told you in Book II. how Pope Gregory sent Augustine and forty monks to England to convert the people to Christianity. The monks had great success, and in course of time the English gave up their fierce old faith and became followers of Jesus Christ.

2. You already know that one of Augustine's monks, named Paulinus, was invited by Edwin to preach the gospel in Northumbria. By his preaching thousands became Christians.

3. Now we must not suppose that Paulinus was the only Christian missionary at work in Northumbria. There were

Christians in Britain long before Augustine was sent from Rome.

4. Some of the Britons were Christians. Most of the Christian Britons were slain by the heathen English, or were driven into Wales. In that wild country they still held to their faith. Ireland, however, was the great home of Christianity in those dark days.

5. You have all heard of St. Patrick, the chief saint of the Irish. He made Ireland a Christian country, and gathered many preachers and teachers about him.

6. Fifty years after the death of St. Patrick, a great and good man, named Columba, set sail from Ireland with a number of friends. They landed on the barren little island of Iona, off the west coast of Scotland. They made the island their headquarters, and here they built a home for themselves. Then they set out on missionary journeys to all parts of Scotland.

7. One of the Northumbrian kings, named Oswald, the son of Ethelfrith, begged Columba to send missionaries to convert his people. Columba gladly agreed to do so. A monk was sent; but he was not a success, and soon returned to Iona. He said that the people were so stubborn and savage that no one could turn them from their old ways.

8. Now there was a young monk at Iona named Aidan. He sat listening to the missionary, and then began asking him questions. "Were *they* stubborn, or were *you* hard?" he asked. "Did you tell them of God's great love, or did you threaten them with His anger?"

9. All eyes were turned on Aidan. Columba saw at

PICTURES OF HOLY ISLAND.

1. Holy Island from the Mainland. 2. Ruins of Priory from St. Cuthbert's Cell.
3. Holy Island (Lindisfarne) Church.

(Photos by Green and Thompson & Lee.)

once that he was the very man for the work. Before long Aidan was on his way to Northumbria to take the place of the missionary who had failed.

10. Christian teachers in early days were fond of choosing an island on which to build their homes. On an island they were quiet, and safe from attack.

11. Look at a map of England. Off the coast of Northumberland you will see an island called Holy Island. It is not far from the shore. When the tide is out you can walk to it from the mainland across the sands. Aidan chose Holy Island for his home, and built a church and monastery on it.

12. On the opposite page you see a number of pictures of Holy Island as it is to-day. One of the pictures shows you the ruins of the great church which was built on the site of Aidan's church four hundred and fifty-six years after his death.

13. Aidan was made a bishop, and then he gathered monks about him and travelled to and fro, preaching and teaching. He could not speak the English tongue very well, so Oswald the king used to go with him, and explain to the people what he said. Aidan and Oswald worked hand in hand for seven years, and they were the best and most loving of friends.

14. Aidan had great success. "Work and pray" was his motto, and no man ever worked harder or prayed better. He was full of love and gentleness, yet he was as fearless as a lion in the work of his Master. Wherever he went the people thronged to hear him. Many then were turned to the true faith, and as time went by little churches built of wood sprang up all over Northumbria.

7. THE STORY OF AIDAN.—II.

1. One day, when the king and the bishop sat at meat, the servants told them that a large number of hungry beggars were waiting outside the gate of the palace.

2. At once the king sent all the meat on the table to the poor people, and had the silver dish before him cut into small pieces and divided amongst them. Aidan was so pleased with the king that he clasped his hand and blessed it, saying, "May this hand never grow old!"

3. Though many of the people in Northumbria were now Christians, the people of Middle England still remained heathen. They had a fierce old king named Penda, who hated the Christians, and fought fiercely against them all the days of his life.

4. Penda marched against Oswald, and a great battle was fought. In the fight the good King Oswald was slain by a javelin, which pierced his breast. As he lay dying he prayed for his enemies, and said, "May the Lord have mercy on their souls!"

5. Penda had Oswald's body torn in pieces and his limbs fixed on stakes. An old tale tells us that, when all else of Oswald had perished, the hand that Aidan had blessed still remained as it was in life.

6. For a time the old heathen king was master of England. He carried sword and flame through Northumbria, and tried to burn down the fortress on the rock of Bamburgh. He pulled down all the cottages in the neighbourhood, and piling the wood against the walls of the fortress he set fire to it.

CHURCH OF ST. PAUL, JARROW. [*Photo by Thompson & Lee.*

7. The flames were driven by the wind into the fortress, and those inside expected that the wooden buildings would soon catch fire. Another old story tells us that Aidan, in his little church on Holy Island, watched the fire, and as he watched it he prayed.

8. "See, Lord," he said, "what wickedness Penda is doing! Save us, O Lord!" Then the story goes on to say that the wind changed, and the flames were driven back on those who had raised them.

9. Penda tried hard to drive Christianity out of the land, but he failed. Oswald's son fought a fierce battle with him, and Penda was slain. After Penda's death, Christians were to be found all over the land.

10. Aidan went on with his work, and in the year 651 he died. When he felt that he was dying, he went into his little church and rested his head against its wooden walls. So he passed away.

11. Others took his place, and carried on the good work which he had begun. Schools were opened, and Northumbria became the home of learning in England.

12. Look at a map of England, and find the great, busy city of Newcastle. Near to it, in the county of Durham, is the town of Jarrow. If you go to Jarrow, you will see the Church of St. Paul. It is a very old church, indeed, and one of the most famous places in England. It belonged to the monastery which was founded in the time of Aidan.

13. After Aidan's death the monastery gained great fame as a school. The head of it was a learned and pious man named Bede. He wrote many books, and from one of them we learn the story of Aidan which I have told you here. Bede turned parts of the Bible into English. He died just when he had finished the Gospel of St. John.

8. SWEYN, THE DANE.—I.

1. The story of our land for the first eleven hundred years after the birth of our Lord tells us how four separate bodies of invaders, one after the other, made themselves masters of the country. They were the Romans, the English, the Danes, and the Normans. We shall read about the Normans in a later lesson.

Alfred inciting the Saxons to resist the Danes.

(After the painting by G. F. Watts, R. A., in Westminster Palace.)

A GREAT VIKING.
(*From the picture by H. W. Koekkoek.*)

2. First came the Romans. They were conquerors, not settlers. They never meant to make their home in Britain. They looked upon this land as a large foreign estate from which they might draw much profit.

3. Most of the Romans who came to Britain were soldiers They hoped to return some day to their homes and kindred in the south of Europe, and there enjoy the money which they had made abroad.

4. The next comers were the English. They came as conquerors too, but they remained as settlers. They meant to stay in the land for good, to live and work and die in it. They drove the natives into the mountains, and made their homes on the rich plains.

5. More than a century later, in the year 793, a third set of invaders appeared. Who were they? They were Vikings, or "creek men," and they were so called because they came from the deep inlets or creeks on the coasts of Norway and Denmark.

6. Most of them came from Denmark, and for this reason they are commonly called Danes. They were a strong, fierce race of sailors. They loved fighting for its own sake, and had no fear of death.

7. They were at home upon the sea, and every boy amongst them longed for the day when he would command a pirate ship of his own. They looked upon the Christian English as traitors to their gods. When they landed in England they burnt the churches and slew the priests without mercy.

8. In Book I. you learned that the Danes became so powerful in England that the great King Alfred was obliged

A Descent of the Danes.

(*From the water-colour drawing by W. Bell Scott, R.S.A., in the South Kensington Museum.*)

The Danes have suddenly appeared off the coast of Northumberland. The high cliff in the picture is the point of Tynemouth. Some of the ships have run ashore, and the Danes are even now making their way to land through the surf. The frightened English are building a fort on the hill, and men, women, and children are hurrying thither for safety. Notice the priest who is carrying the candles, books, and chalice of his church. The Danes were in the habit of sacking and burning the churches, and slaying the priests without mercy.

to fly for his life to the marshes of Somerset. At last he managed to overcome the Danish leader and make a treaty with him.

9. Alfred agreed that the Danes should have all England to the east and north-east of a line drawn roughly from Chester to London. In this part of the country the Danes settled down and became farmers.

10. The rest of Alfred's reign was not troubled much by the Danes, but when he died their raids began afresh. Bands of pirates again crossed the North Sea, and the fights with them were long and fierce.

11. Now let us come to the time of King Ethelred II., who began to reign seventy-eight years after the death of Alfred. He was a selfish, idle, hard-hearted man, and he was known as the Redeless, or "weak in counsel," because he always took the easy course instead of the right one.

12. In his day the Danes grew bolder and bolder. A great fleet of nearly a hundred ships entered the Thames, and the Danes began to overrun the country. Instead of fighting them to the death, Ethelred offered the Danes money to go away and leave him in peace.

13. You can easily understand that this was just the way to bring the Danes back again. Whenever they needed money they made a raid upon England.

14. Every time they were bought off they raised their price. On one occasion Ethelred had to pay the Danes £24,000, which was a vast sum of money in those days. It was all paid in silver pennies, five to the shilling.

15. Again and again the Danes came for silver pennies. A tax was placed on the land in order to raise the money,

and the silver plate in the churches was melted down. Still the Danes were not satisfied, and then Ethelred planned a foul deed which he thought would rid him once for all of his greedy foes.

9. SWEYN, THE DANE.—II.

1. I told you in the last lesson that many Danes had settled down as farmers in the east of England. There were Danes, too, in other parts of England, living peacefully with their English neighbours.

2. Amongst them was Gunhilda, the sister of Sweyn, King of Denmark. She had married an earl who served Ethelred, and had become a Christian.

3. Some of these Danes, no doubt, helped their pirate kinsmen in their raids on England, but many of them did not. They only wished to be left in peace. In spite of this, Ethelred sent secret letters to all parts of the country, telling the people to rise at a certain hour on a certain day, and slay every Dane living amongst them.

4. The people obeyed the king's order, and on a certain day, in the year 1002, thousands of Danes—men, women, and little children—were murdered. Gunhilda was among the slain. Her little boy was killed before her face. "Alas!" cried the dying Gunhilda, "this deed will bring much sorrow upon England." Her words proved to be only too true.

5. When the news of these cowardly murders reached Denmark the people were terribly angry. Sweyn, the king, vowed that he would be revenged.

6. He got together a great army of the bravest and noblest men in his land, and put them on board his ships. The king himself sailed in a ship called the *Great Sea Dragon.* It had a bow shaped like the head of a serpent. On the mast was nailed the bracelet of his murdered sister Gunhilda.

7. So great and powerful was Sweyn's army that the English dared not meet it in battle. To and fro went Sweyn, murdering and plundering. When he returned to Denmark he left behind him a sorrowful land, stricken with famine.

8. In the year 1009 the Danes returned, and this time they remained. The English fought bravely against them, but all to no purpose. It was very clear that the Danes would soon be masters of England.

9. In one of their raids the Danes attacked Canterbury, and seized the archbishop. They loaded him with chains, and carried him about from place to place, hoping that his people would pay a heavy price for his ransom. The archbishop, however, said that he would not rob his poor people, for they had little enough to live upon.

10. One day, when the Danes had been feasting, they brought the archbishop into their camp, and shouted, "Give us gold, bishop! give us gold!" "I have only the gold of wisdom to give you," said the steadfast old man. "Receive that, and turn to the true God."

11. This saying so angered the chiefs that they seized the bones of the oxen on which they had been feasting, and beat him with them until he fell on the ground. Then a Danish soldier dealt him a heavy blow with a battle-axe and killed him.

12. London was the only important place which held out against Sweyn. At last it also yielded. Then Ethelred fled to Normandy, and in the year 1014 the King of Denmark became King of England.

13. Sweyn's reign was a very brief one indeed. Within a month he dropped down dead, and his ships sailed back to Denmark under the command of his son Cnut.

14. In 1015 Cnut returned with a great army. Ethelred's brave son, Edmund Ironside, led the English against him, and five fierce battles were fought. In the last of these battles, a traitor, named Eadric the Grasper, turned against Edmund in the height of the battle, and the English were beaten with great slaughter.

15. Then a treaty was made, and Cnut and Edmund met on the isle of Olney, in the Severn, and agreed to divide the kingdom between them. This arrangement did not last long. Before the year was out Edmund was murdered by the foul traitor who had caused him to lose his last great battle. Then Cnut the Dane became sole King of England.

10. GODWIN, THE ENGLISHMAN.

1. You read something about King Cnut in Book I. When he died, he left two sons to follow him on the throne. They were bad, lawless men, and within eight years after their father's death they were both dead.

2. Then the wise men of the land met to choose another king. Cnut's sons had no children, so the wise men chose a king belonging to Alfred's line. His name was Edward,

THE LAST VOYAGE OF THE VIKING.

(From the picture by Robert Gibb, R.S.A. By kind permission of Mrs. Macleod.)

and he was the younger son of Ethelred the Redeless. Once more there was an English king in England.

3. Now at this time there was a very powerful man in England, named Earl Godwin. He was born in the reign of Ethelred. An old writer tells us that he was the son of a rich farmer, and that one day he met a Danish chief in the forest.

4 "What is your name?" asked the Dane. "It is Godwin," said the young man; "and you are one of the Danes who were beaten in the fight yesterday." This was true. The chief had fled for his life, and had lost himself in the forest.

5. "Guide me to our ships or to our camp," said the Dane, "and I will reward you." He then gave him a gold ring. Godwin did not wish to be paid for doing a kind act. He looked at the ring closely, and then gave it back to the Dane. "I will not take this," said he, "but I will show you the way."

6. Godwin led the Danish chief to his father's home, and kept him in hiding for a night and a day. Then, when all was dark and quiet, he bade the chief follow him.

7. As they were about to set out, Godwin's father said to the Dane, "This is my only son, but I trust him to you. He will guide you to your friends, and for this his countrymen will kill him if they catch him. Ask your king to take my son into his service."

8. The Dane promised, and Godwin led him to the ships of his friends. Then the chief kept his promise to Godwin's father, and treated him as his own son. Godwin soon won the favour of the Danes, and rose to be a leader amongst

them. When King Cnut became King of England, he made Godwin Earl of Wessex. Godwin was the most powerful man in England when King Edward, the son of Ethelred the Redeless, came to the throne.

9. Edward was English by birth, but he had lived in Normandy for many years, and was really more Norman than English. He was never happy unless he had his Norman friends about him. Normans flocked to his court, and he gave them lands and riches and the chief posts in the country. This made Godwin and many of the English very angry, for they hated the Normans.

10. One day a French count with his troop of followers came to visit the king. When he reached Dover on his way home, he treated the townsfolk badly. Some of his men tried to force their way into one of the houses.

11. Now an Englishman believes that his house is his castle, and he allows no one to enter it against his will. You may be quite sure that the count's men soon found their way barred by a sturdy Englishman.

12. The Englishman was wounded in the struggle, and one of the Frenchmen was killed. Then a great uproar broke out, and in the fight which followed several on both sides were slain.

13. The count fled to the king, and told him that the men of Dover were wholly to blame. Then Edward sent for Godwin, Earl of Wessex, and ordered him to punish all who had fought against the count.

14. Godwin told the king that the count was to blame, and that he would *not* punish the men of Dover. Edward became very angry, and called upon his nobles to punish

the disobedient earl. Godwin and his sons gathered together the men of Wessex, and civil war nearly broke out.

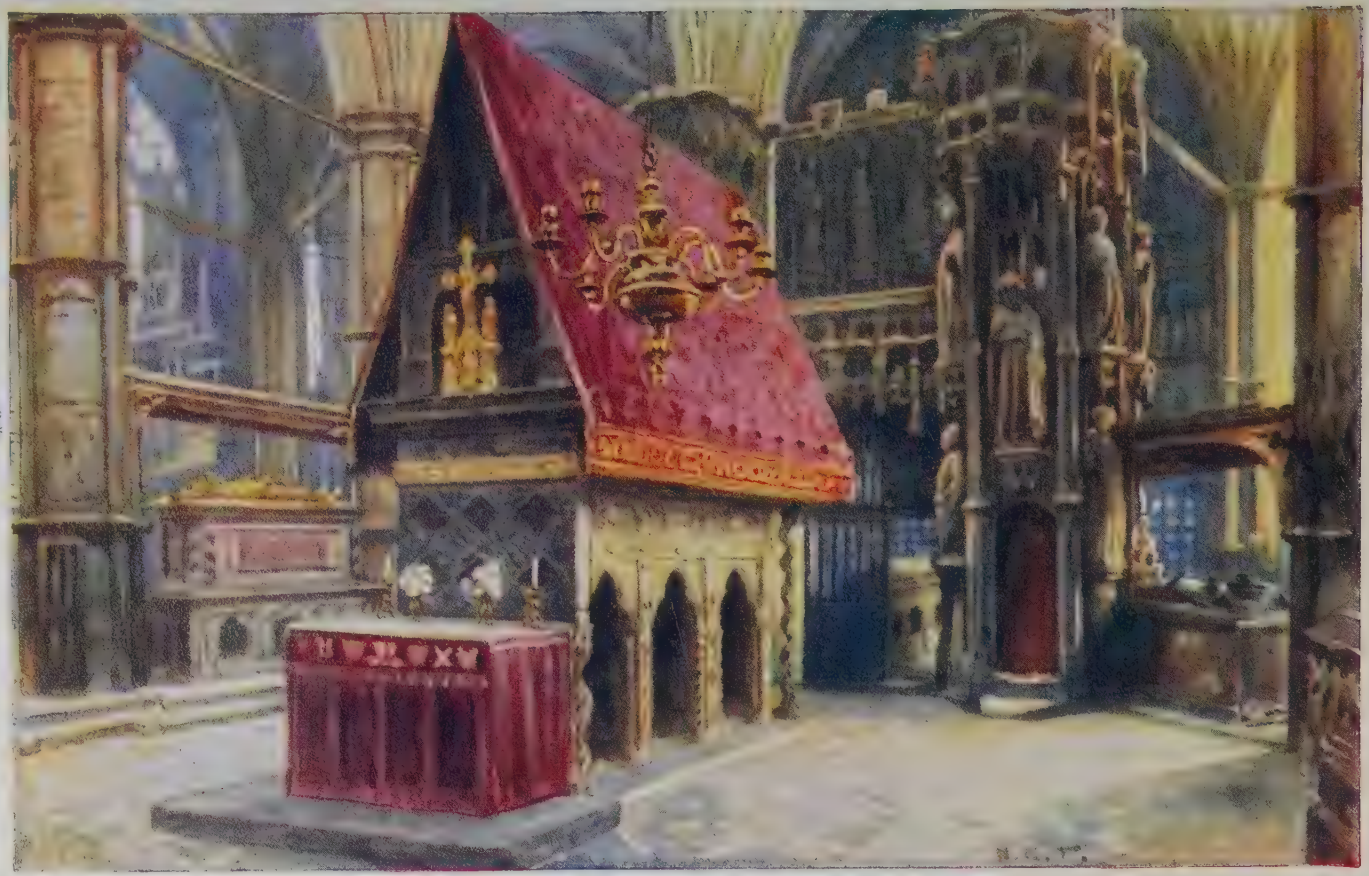
15. Godwin, however, was very unwilling to fight the king. He agreed that the Witan, or meeting of wise men, should decide the matter. The Witan met in London for the trial of the earl, but Godwin refused to appear before it. He then fled out of the country, and sailed across the North Sea to the court of a friendly king, and was thereupon declared an outlaw.

11. HAROLD OF ENGLAND.—I.

1. Though Godwin was driven from his country, he was not beaten. A year later, with a powerful fleet, he crossed to England, where he met with a warm welcome from his countrymen. Edward's Norman friends, fearing for their lives, fled in haste, and Godwin became the most powerful and the best-loved man in England.

2. Godwin was now an old man, and he did not live long after his joyful return. We do not know for certain how he died, but we do know that he died suddenly. He was a brave, strong, and clever man. No doubt he did many wrong things, but men forgave him because they knew that he wished to keep England for the English.

3. Edward was a sickly man, and his people saw that he had not long to live. All eyes were turned to Harold, the tall, handsome son of Earl Godwin. He was just the kind of man the English loved. He was nobler than his



Edward the Confessor's Chapel at Westminster Abbey.

(*From the water-colour drawing by H. Tidmarsh.*)

father ; and he was not only brave, gallant, and clever, but he had very winning ways.

4. In his own earldom of Wessex he was much beloved, though the people of middle England and the north did not love him so well. Like his father, he stood up for the rights of Englishmen. He was faithful to King Edward, and fought very bravely for him.

5. Now, at this time there was a very powerful duke ruling over that part of North France known as Normandy. This duke was the William of Normandy about whom you read in Book II. He had paid a visit to his cousin, the King of England, and he now said that Edward had then promised that he should be the next king.

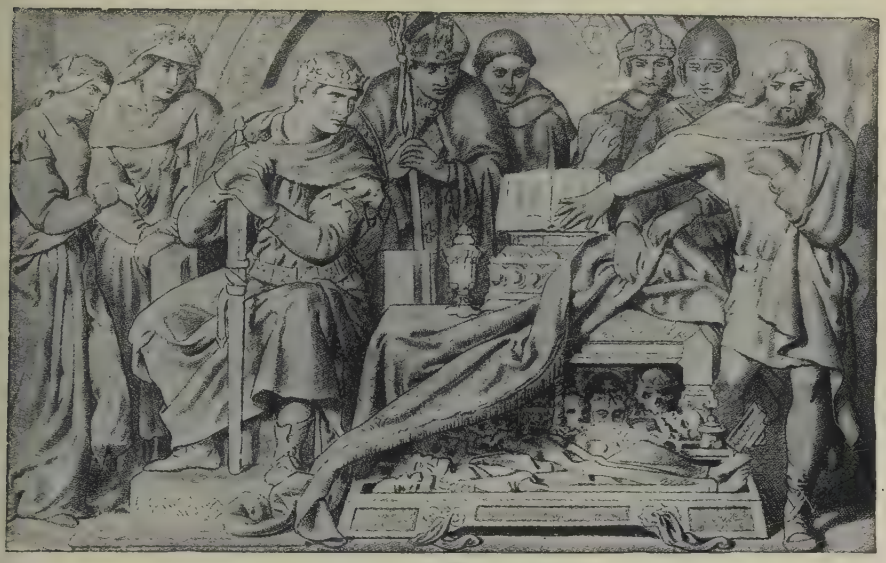
6. By this time the English people looked upon Harold as the coming king. Unhappily, about this time a great misfortune befell him. One day, when he was out sailing in the English Channel, a storm arose and blew his ship over to the coast of France. When he landed he was seized by a count who was a vassal of William, and thrown into prison.

7. William heard the news with great joy. Harold was the man of all others whom he wished to get into his power. He made the count give up the prisoner, and brought Harold with him to his court. Harold lived with William for some time, and helped him in one of his wars.

8. At last William said that Harold might return home, if he would swear an oath to help him to get the crown of England after Edward's death. Harold did not know what to do. If he did not take the oath, William would either keep him prisoner for the rest of his life or kill him. If he

agreed to swear the oath, he would have to give up the crown of England, or break his word.

9. After much thought, Harold made up his mind to swear the oath. At once William sent to the churches of his land, and collected the holiest relics in them, the bones of saints. These he placed in a box covered with cloth of



HAROLD SWEARING THE OATH.
(From the picture by Daniel Maclise, R.A.)

gold. Then he sent for Harold, and ordered him to place his hand on the cloth and swear the oath.

10. When Harold had done so, the cloth was withdrawn, and he saw that he had been made to swear upon the relics of saints. In those days men believed that no person would dare to break an oath so sworn. Harold turned pale when he saw what he had done. Even the Norman nobles said, "God help him!"

11. Harold returned to England, and either forgot his oath, or held it of no account because he had been forced and tricked into it. When King Edward heard the news he was in a sad state of mind. He felt sure that great evil would come upon the country.

12. HAROLD OF ENGLAND.—II.

1. Edward died in January 1066, and was buried with great pomp in his church of Westminster, which had been finished only a few days before. On page 41 you see a picture of the beautiful chapel in which his bones lie.

2. On the very day of Edward's death the English chiefs and nobles chose Harold as their king. The news was carried to Normandy. When William heard it he flew into such a passion that none of his servants dared speak to him. At once he began to make his plans for the conquest of England.

3. Now Harold had a wicked brother, named Tostig. This man had been made Earl of Northumbria; but he had proved such a cruel ruler that Harold had advised King Edward to take away his earldom and to drive him out of the country. This had been done, and Tostig was now the bitter enemy of his brother.

4. When Tostig heard that Harold had been crowned, he went to the King of Norway, and got him to join with him in an attack upon England. They landed in Northumbria, overcame the earls of the north, and took the city of York.

THE BURIAL OF HAROLD.
(From the picture by F. R. Pickersgill.)

5. Meanwhile William was busy getting together men and ships for the conquest of England. His nobles were eager to follow him, for they hoped to win lands and wealth for themselves. William sent to all parts of Western Europe, promising rich rewards to those who would join him. Crowds of lawless men flocked to Normandy, and William was soon at the head of a large army.

6. The Pope was very powerful in those days, and he helped William. He was angry with Harold for several reasons, but chiefly because the English king had broken the oath which he swore on the relics of the saints. He therefore sent William his blessing and a holy banner. Soon William was ready to sail.

7. Now you see that Harold was attacked on two sides. Tostig and the King of Norway were burning and plundering the north, while William was waiting for a fair wind to carry his ships across the Channel. It was an hour of terrible danger to England.

8. Harold made up his mind at once. An old story tells us that, when the news of Tostig's landing was brought to him, he was smitten with a great sickness. He said nothing, however, of his sufferings, but ordered his army to march northward with all speed. In a wonderfully short time he reached Stamford Bridge, on the outskirts of York.

9. The Norsemen were taken by surprise. They did not expect Harold to come so soon, and they had left their armour on board their ships in the Ouse. Before the battle began it is said that Harold sent to Tostig, offering him his old earldom and one-third of the kingdom if he would yield.

10. "And what will you give to my friend, the King of

Norway?" asked Tostig. "I will give him," said Harold, "seven feet of ground for a grave, or, as he is a very tall man, perhaps a little more."

11. Tostig said that he would never desert his friend, and then the battle began. The English made a sudden attack, and Tostig's men were beaten back. They crossed the river Derwent by Stamford Bridge, and the English tried to follow them.

12. For a time a powerful Norseman "kept the bridge" single-handed against all comers. He was slain at last, and then Harold led his men across the river. The battle lasted all day, and at nightfall the Norsemen were beaten. The raven banner of the Vikings was taken, and Tostig and the King of Norway were both slain. The Vikings came in three hundred ships; they fled in twenty-four.

13. HAROLD OF ENGLAND.—III.

1. The same wind that fluttered the English banners in Yorkshire was filling the Norman sails, and wafting an even more powerful enemy to England. Harold was feasting at York, when news reached him that William had landed with a great host on the coast of Sussex.

2. At once he sped southward, and eighteen days after the battle of Stamford Bridge he reached the hill of Senlac, seven miles north of Hastings. The next day the great battle of Hastings was fought.

3. Harold had a much smaller army than William, so he was forced to defend himself, and to wait for the enemy to

attack. He therefore placed his army on the hill-side. He dug a ditch round the foot of the hill, and built a stockade, so that the whole was something like a fort.

4. On the highest part of the hill stood the best of his soldiers, round the banner of their king. They had great two-handed battle-axes in their hands and shields slung from their necks.

5. The soldiers stood shoulder to shoulder with their shields touching, so as to form a wall of steel against the foe. The English were nearly all on foot, but the Normans had many horse-soldiers. They had also bands of archers, while the English had almost none.

6. The battle began at nine on Sunday morning, the 14th of October, 1066. The Normans dashed against the English line, but were driven back. A second attack followed, but it also failed.

7. Then a cry arose that Duke William was slain, and many of the Normans turned to flee. William, however, tore off his helmet, and, riding amongst his men, shouted, "I still live, and by the help of God I will yet conquer."

8. All day the battle raged, and towards three in the afternoon William thought of a plan to draw the English from behind their wall of defence. He ordered his soldiers to pretend to run away.

9. They did so, and numbers of the English broke their ranks and rushed after them. Then another body of Normans dashed up the hill, and fought the English hand to hand.

10. Harold and his men fought like heroes, but the Normans had now got a footing on the hill, and every moment

they pressed the English closer and closer. The Norman archers shot their arrows high into the air, so that they might fall on the faces of the closely-packed English.

11. One of the arrows pierced the English king's eye, and he fell. Harold's friends fought round his body, but

BATTLE ABBEY AS IT IS TO-DAY. [*Photo by Graphotine.*

one after the other they too fell; and as the sun set, the battle ended. The Normans had won.

12. If you visit the old battlefield, you will see the ruins of an abbey, known as Battle Abbey. Here is a picture of it. Part of the abbey is now a gentleman's country house. The abbey was founded by William, who had vowed to build a great church if God gave him the victory.

13. At first William wished to bury Harold's body on the sea-shore, because he was a breaker of oaths and an outcast from the Church. He was persuaded not to do this, and the poor, hacked body of the English king was buried in front of the high altar of Waltham Abbey. Some of the English believed that Harold was not slain in the battle, but that he escaped, and lived as a hermit to a good old age.

14. William had won the crown of England, but the land was not yet conquered. I told you in Book II. how a brave Englishman, named Hereward, held out against him for several years. In the end, however, William became master of the country.

15. Thus for the fourth time Britain was conquered. A new race of kings sat on the throne. Normans held the richest lands and the highest offices of state, and the English were little better than their slaves.

14. "THE LADY OF THE ENGLISH."

1. William ruled our land for twenty-one years. He left behind him three sons—Robert, who became Duke of Normandy ; William the Red, who became King of England ; and Henry, the Good Scholar, who was king after his brother William. I need not stay to tell you about the Red King. You read his story in Book II.

2. While he lay dead in the New Forest with an arrow in his heart, Henry seized the crown. He reigned thirty-six years, and he proved himself to be a very powerful king.

3. Twenty years after Henry became king he lost his son

Canterbury Cathedral.

Founded by Augustine, first Archbishop of Canterbury, about 600 A.D. ; sacked by the Danes, 1011 ; the scene of the murder of Archbishop Becket, 1170 ; a place of pilgrimage from the twelfth to the sixteenth century.

in a shipwreck. Then the heir to the throne was his daughter, Matilda. Henry made his nobles swear that they would have Matilda as their queen after his death. Though the nobles took the oath, they did not like the thought of being ruled by a woman, and especially by such a haughty and ill-tempered woman as Matilda.

4. Now Matilda had a cousin named Stephen. He was the son of the Conqueror's youngest daughter. There was not a braver or more gallant knight in the land, and he was very popular with the nobles.

5. Nevertheless, he was a weak man. He could not say no, and he could never keep a penny in his purse. One reason why the nobles liked him was that he was very easy-going. They thought that if he became king, they would be able to do whatever they pleased.

6. Stephen was crowned king, and then began a time of awful misery for England. The nobles, or barons, as we will call them, built strong castles all over the land, and filled them with hired soldiers. Then they made war on one another, and did such terrible deeds of cruelty that men said openly, "Christ and His saints are asleep."

7. You must not suppose that Matilda sat tamely by while Stephen took her throne. Three years after Stephen became king she landed in England, and, with the help of her half-brother Robert, managed to get an army together.

8. A battle took place near Lincoln. Stephen fought like a lion, but he was beaten. He only yielded when his sword and battle-axe were broken. He was sent to Bristol Castle, and Matilda became "The Lady of the English."

9. She soon made her people hate her. She was rude to

the barons; she would not listen to Stephen's wife and children when they came to ask mercy for the prisoner; she offended the Londoners, who asked her to give them good laws.

10. So angry were the Londoners that they turned her out of the city. She went to Winchester, and there she was attacked by the friends of Stephen, who took her brother Robert prisoner. He was her best general; without him she could do nothing.

11. Matilda was obliged to give up Stephen in order to have Robert set free. Then the war went on afresh. Stephen besieged Matilda in the castle of Oxford, and so closely did he surround it that the soldiers inside were starving.

12. On Christmas Eve Matilda escaped from the city. The snow lay thick on the ground, and the river was frozen hard. At dead of night the queen and three faithful knights dressed themselves in white robes, so that they could not be seen against the background of snow.

13. They were lowered from the castle wall to the frozen river at its foot. They crossed the ice like gliding ghosts, and went right through Stephen's camp without being seen. Matilda reached a place of safety, but her cause was lost. Stephen was left in peace for five years.

14. Matilda's son Henry was a very active and powerful young man. He raised an army and invaded England. Stephen was now feeble in health, and he had lost his eldest son. The people were tired of fighting, and they were therefore very glad when the two princes agreed that Stephen should keep his throne, and that Henry should succeed him.

Death of Becket.

(After the painting by John Cross, in Canterbury Cathedral.)

15. THE GREAT ARCHBISHOP.—I.

1. Matilda's son Henry was just one-and-twenty when he became King of England. He was a tawny-haired, round-headed, thick-set young man. He was so restless and active that he seldom slept two nights in the same bed.

2. He was a scholar, and a friend of scholars, and he knew how to govern men. Unhappily, he did not know how to govern himself. When he could not get his own way, he would fly into a fit of passion, fling himself on the floor, and bite the rushes which in those days were used instead of carpets.

3. Henry was not only King of England, but master of broad lands in France as well. He ruled more of France than the French king himself. Look at a map of France, and find the Pyrenees Mountains, which separate France from Spain. Henry's rule extended northward from the Pyrenees to the Tweed. Later on he added a part of Ireland, and he was also overlord of Scotland.

4. Henry's first task in England was to overcome the barons, who were little better than robber chiefs. He pulled down some hundreds of their castles, and he soon made them obey the law and live at peace with their neighbours.

5. There was plenty of other work to be done, and Henry looked round for a strong, wise man to help him to do it. He chose Thomas Becket, the son of a very rich London merchant, named Gilbert Becket. Becket became chancellor—that is, the chief person in the land next to the king.

6. An old story tells us that when Becket's father was a young man he went to the Holy Land, and was taken prisoner by a chief of that country. This chief had a fair daughter, named Rohesia, and she fell in love with the young Englishman, and promised to be his wife.

7. In the course of time Gilbert escaped and returned to England. He forgot Rohesia, but she did not forget him. She left her father's house and reached the sea-coast, where she went amongst the sailors crying, "London ! London !" and "Gilbert ! Gilbert !" These were the only two English words that she knew.

8. At last she found an English ship. She offered the captain some of her jewels if he would take her on board his ship to London. He did so, and set her ashore in the great city. Then the poor lady went to and fro in the dark, dirty streets, crying, "Gilbert ! Gilbert !"

9. One day Gilbert heard her calling, and ran out into the street. There he saw the faithful girl who had followed him from her distant home, and had suffered so much because she loved him so well. Her long journey was over ; she had found Gilbert at last.

10. The Saracen maid and the English merchant were married, and the story tells us that they lived happily ever after. Their son was Thomas Becket, King Henry's servant and great friend.

11. Becket was a tall, strong, handsome man. He had been trained by the monks, and he was to become a priest ; but in spite of this he was a good soldier. He could ride well, and use sword and lance with the best man in Henry's army. Not only was he very clever and learned, but he

was a gay and merry companion. The king became very fond of him.

12. Becket loved show and rich living. He had a noble palace of his own, and one hundred and forty knights followed in his train. He wore splendid clothes, and had gold plate on his table. Indeed, he lived in a much grander style than the king.

13. The king cared nothing for palaces, costly clothes, and fine living, but it pleased him to see Becket make such a grand show. Sometimes, when Becket sat down to feast with his followers, the king would ride up to the door of the palace, toss his bridle to a groom, stride into the great dining-hall, jump over the table, and in his rough riding-dress take his place by the side of his chancellor.

14. The king was very fond of a joke, especially of a joke that made somebody else look foolish. One cold winter's day he was riding through the streets of London with Becket, when he saw an old man shivering in his rags. "Look at that poor beggar," said the king. "Would it not be a kind act to give him a good, warm coat?"

15. "Certainly it would," said Becket, "and you are a good Christian to think of such a kindly deed." "Then give him yours," said the king, with a laugh. He seized the rich crimson cloak which Becket was wearing, and tried to take it from him.

16. The chancellor did not wish to lose his cloak; but the king meant to have it, so there was a struggle between them. At last Becket gave way, and the king handed the cloak to the beggar. You may be sure that the poor man was much surprised and delighted.

16. THE GREAT ARCHBISHOP.—II.

1. By this time Henry had put down the barons, but they were not the only lawless men in the country. Nowadays clergymen who break the law are punished by the king's judges, just as other wrongdoers are. In those days, however, clergymen could only be punished for their wrongdoing by the bishops, who could not imprison or hang them for their crimes, but only drove them out of the Church.

2. Since Stephen's death over a hundred persons had been murdered by clerks, that is, by persons who had learned to read, and, because of this, had the same rights as priests. None of these men had been punished for their crimes. Henry thought this state of things disgraceful, and he meant to try to alter it.

3. He had a hard task before him, for the Church was very powerful indeed in those days. Henry knew that unless the head of the Church in England was his friend, he could not carry out his plans. Becket had always been ready to do whatever he wished ; so the king said, "I will make him archbishop, and he will help me to overcome the Church."

4. He therefore got the Pope to make Becket Archbishop of Canterbury. At once the new archbishop changed his manner of life altogether. To the surprise of everybody, he sent away his gay followers ; he threw off his costly robes ; he gave up his feasting and grand way of living ; and said that he would no longer be chancellor.

5. He ate coarse food, drank bitter water, wore sackcloth

next to his skin, and had himself flogged for his sins. He lived in a little cell, and washed the feet of thirteen beggars every day. He did this to show the king that, instead of helping to take away the power of the Church, he was now going to be its strong defender.

6. Of course the king was very angry, and soon a bitter quarrel arose between them. When Henry began to take away some of the rights of the priests, Becket withstood him, but afterwards said the king might do as he wished. Soon afterwards Becket was sorry that he had yielded, and asked the Pope to pardon him for giving way to the king.

7. This angered Henry so much that Becket had to fly for his life. Travelling by night and hiding by day, and calling himself "Brother Dearman," he managed to escape from the country. For seven years he lived abroad.

8. In 1170 Henry thought it wise to have his son crowned. This was done by the Archbishop of York and other bishops. It ought to have been done by Becket, who was Archbishop of Canterbury. So angry was Becket at the slight that he got the Pope to punish the Archbishop of York and the bishops who had helped to crown the young prince.

9. Soon after, a pretended peace was made between the archbishop and the king. Then Becket returned to England, in a very stubborn frame of mind. The people were very glad to see him after his seven years' absence, but the nobles and the priests gave him little support. They knew that his return meant trouble.

10. At once Becket cut off the Archbishop of York and the other bishops from the Church. Henry was in Nor-

mandy when he heard the news. He flew into a rage, and cried, "Are there none of the idle men that eat my bread who will rid me of this upstart priest?" Four knights, who heard the king's words, made up their minds that they would kill the archbishop and win the thanks of the king.

11. They stole away from the court, and hurried to Canterbury, where they forced their way into the archbishop's presence. They told him that they would kill him if he did not remove the punishment from the bishops who had crowned the king's son. Becket refused to do this. "Then we will do more than threaten!" said the knights, and they went outside to put on their coats of mail.

12. The monks begged the archbishop to fly, but he would not do so. He put on his robes, and went to the cathedral to take part in the evening service. Soon the knights were heard thundering at the door. Becket threw the door open with his own hands.

13. The knights entered, and one of them tried to drag Becket out of the cathedral, but he used his great strength and threw him down. At this another drew his sword and struck at Becket's head. A monk put out his arm to protect the archbishop, and partly warded off the blow.

14. Then the other knights smote him, and he fell, crying out that he died for the cause of God and the Church. The knights slunk away, leaving the archbishop lying dead at the foot of the altar in the silence and gloom of his cathedral. As soon as the news became known men stood aghast at the foul deed.

17. STRONGBOW.

1. The king was bitterly sorry for the rash words which had led to the murder of the archbishop. At once he sent messages to the Pope, saying that he was not to blame for the wicked deed.

2. Afterwards he went barefoot to the scene of Becket's death, and bared his back, that the monks of Canterbury might flog him for his hasty words. There was no more talk of overcoming the Church. Henry had to give way, for his people now looked upon Becket as a saint. Thus the Church became more powerful than ever.

3. In earlier times Ireland had been the "island of saints." Now it was a miserable land, wasted by almost constant war and famine. It was ruled by five "kings," who were always quarrelling amongst themselves. The King of Connaught was the chief of these kings, and the other kings sometimes obeyed him.

4. Now Dermot, the King of Leinster, had carried off the wife of a noble, and had hidden her on an island in a bog. The other kings were so angry that they joined together against him, and drove him out of Ireland.

5. Dermot came over to Henry's court, and promised that the English king should be his overlord if he would help him to win back his kingdom. Henry was busy with other matters, and could not help him. He said, however, that Dermot might ask aid from the English barons.

6. The chief man in South Wales at this time was the Earl of Pembroke, who was nicknamed Strongbow. He was a poor man, of no very good character, but very brave

and daring. Strongbow agreed to help Dermot to win back his throne, and with a small army of knights and Welsh archers he crossed over to Ireland. His army consisted of less than two thousand men in all.

7. The knights, with their battle-axes and coats of mail, and the archers, who were all good shots, made short work of the Irish, who did not wear armour, and won battle after battle. Dermot's enemies were swept out of his kingdom, and Dublin, Wexford, and Waterford were taken. While the dead lay in heaps in the streets of Waterford, Strongbow married Dermot's daughter Eva.

8. Dermot died the year after the murder of Becket, and Strongbow became king in his place. Other barons and knights came over from South Wales to help him, and soon he was so strong that he seemed likely to become king of all Ireland. It would never do to allow Strongbow to build up a kingdom for himself in Ireland, so Henry determined to cross over to prevent him.

9. There was another reason why Henry wished to become master of Ireland. He was very eager to please the Pope, and now came his chance. There was great confusion in that country, and the Irish had refused to pay to Rome the tribute known as Peter's Pence. Henry meant to make himself king of the land, and to bring the Irish Church under the rule of the Pope.

10. He therefore crossed over in 1171 with a great army, and landed at Waterford. Strongbow did not attempt to fight his king. He yielded at once, and so did most of the other Irish kings. Thus Henry became lord of Ireland and Strongbow the chief governor.

11. Then Henry persuaded the Irish bishops to enforce law and order, and to see that the papal decrees were made known and observed. The Pope was very pleased with the king, and was ready to forgive him. After Henry had sworn that he had neither planned nor agreed to Becket's murder, the Pope said that the king was free from all blame.

12. Strongbow had a very troubled time in Ireland. His soldiers rose against him more than once, and he was quite unable to conquer the country. Half of Ireland was seized by knights from Normandy and England. They built castles for themselves, and behaved very much as the barons did in England during Stephen's unhappy reign. The rest of the land was in the hands of native chiefs.

13. Henry was never really King of Ireland, for only the country round about Dublin ever came under his rule. Four hundred years later the greater part of the island had to be conquered anew. Strongbow died thirteen years before Henry, and was buried in the cathedral at Dublin.

18. HUBERT DE BURGH.

1. I cannot stay to tell you anything more about Henry's reign. The later years of his life were full of trouble and sorrow. His sons, urged on by their mother, fought against their father. Two of them died before Henry, and two of them became kings of England.

2. The first of these kings was Richard of the Lion Heart. You already know that he went on a crusade, and did great

Hubert de Burgh and the Blacksmith.

From the painting by Allan Stewart.)

deeds in the Holy Land. The second was John, the worst king who ever sat on the English throne. You read something about him in Book II.

3. John's eldest son was a boy of nine, named Henry. The barons had asked Lewis, son of the French king, to come and fight for them against John. When John died they had no further need of the French prince's help, and one by one they deserted him. Lewis, however, would not be tossed aside like an old glove. He meant to stay and fight for the throne of England.

4. Now the greatest Englishman of this time was Hubert de Burgh. He was the man who was ordered by King John to put out the eyes of little Prince Arthur. He refused to do so, and, strange to say, John did not punish him for it, but afterwards made him the chief judge of the kingdom.

5. A great fleet, carrying an army for Lewis, was about to cross the Channel. Hubert at once saw that the best way to defeat the army was to fight it on the sea, and prevent it from landing. He got together a small fleet, manned by brave men, and sailed from Dover to meet the great French fleet.

6. When the ships came together the English threw shovelfuls of quicklime into the air. The quicklime was driven by the wind into the eyes of the French, and blinded them. Meanwhile, the English archers shot clouds of arrows at the blinded men, and the captains drove the bows of their ships crashing into the sides of the enemy's vessels.

7. Several ships were sunk in this way, and soon the

French fleet was utterly overcome. Thus Hubert won the first great sea-fight which an English fleet ever fought.

8. Lewis was soon forced to give in and return home. Then Hubert ruled the kingdom for Henry, the boy king, and did his utmost to make it strong and peaceful. When, however, Henry grew up he proved himself to be a weak king. He took the advice of evil men, who made him think ill of Hubert. He became jealous of his brave, wise friend, and sought to throw him into prison.

9. Once Hubert had to fly out of his house in the middle of the night, barefooted and bareheaded, to escape from being taken prisoner. He ran to the nearest church, and placed his hand on the altar. There he thought that he would be safe, for in those days the rule was that a man who thus took refuge might not be seized.

10. His enemies followed hard after him. They dashed into the church, and ordered him to yield himself as a traitor. Hubert said he was no traitor, but the king's faithful servant. Then he was dragged from the church, and the village blacksmith was told to put fetters upon the prisoner.

11. When the blacksmith saw that the prisoner was Hubert, he flung down his hammer and said, "I will die rather than put fetters on him. Is he not the man who freed England from the stranger?"

12. Hubert was taken to London and put in prison, but the Bishop of London made the king let him go back to the church. Soldiers were sent to watch it night and day, to see that no food was taken in, and that the prisoner did not escape. At last Hubert was obliged to give himself

up, and was imprisoned in the Tower of London. After some years, however, he was set free, and spent his last days in peace.

13. As for Henry, he was such a weak king that the barons tried to take the power out of his hands. War followed, and the king was beaten in a battle fought near Lewes, in Sussex. For about two years he was king only in name. Then he won a victory, and became real king once more.

19. ROBERT THE BRUCE.—I.

1. Henry won back his kingdom chiefly by the help of his son Edward, who followed him on the throne. Edward was a very good soldier. When he became king he tried to unite all Britain under his rule. He began with Wales, and we learned in Book II. how he conquered that land. Then he tried to overcome Scotland, and found that he had undertaken a much harder task.

2. Edward had been on the throne fourteen years when the Scottish king, Alexander the Third, was killed by a fall from his horse. The heir to the Scottish throne was a little girl, three years of age. She died when she was seven years old, and then several men laid claim to the throne. Edward was chosen as umpire to decide between them.

3. The two men who had the strongest claims were John Baliol and Robert Bruce. Edward chose the former, whose claim he considered the better. He also thought that Baliol would be a more willing tool in his hands. The Scots, however, would not let their king do the bidding

of Edward, so the English king marched an army into Scotland. The Scots yielded, and Edward returned to England, leaving a governor behind him to rule the country.

4. Then came a great surprise. A Lanarkshire landowner, named Wallace, called the nation to arms, and won a battle at Stirling. In 1298, however, he was overcome, and seven years later he fell into the hands of the English. You already know how cruelly the English king treated him. Edward now thought that he had tamed the Scots.

5. Once more he found that he had made a grave mistake. Another leader arose. This was Robert Bruce, the grandson of the Bruce who had been set aside by Edward. He was crowned King of Scotland ; but few of the Scots joined him, and he could make no headway against the English. He was obliged to take to the hills, and for months he was hunted from place to place.

6. An old Scottish writer tells us that one day Bruce lay in hiding in a wretched hovel. He had almost lost hope, and was thinking of leaving the country altogether and going to fight in the Holy Land.

7. As he lay in his hiding-place, he saw a spider hanging by its long thread from the roof of the hut. It was trying to swing itself from one rafter to the next. The king watched it eagerly. Six times it tried, and six times it failed. "Will it try again, and will it succeed after all?" asked Bruce. The spider tried a seventh time. Hurrah! it reached the rafter and stuck fast. Brave little spider!

8. "Shall I be beaten by a spider?" cried the king. "No ; like the spider, I will try again and again until I succeed." No longer was he faint-hearted. He made up

his mind to keep on trying, and perhaps success would come to him at last. So it did.

9. Meanwhile Edward was treating Bruce's wife, children, brothers, and friends with great cruelty. This roused the Scots, and they flocked to their king's standard. Before long Bruce had beaten two of Edward's generals, and was besieging the castle in which they had taken refuge.

10. It was time for Edward to bestir himself. He was now an old man, feeble and sick, but he was as dauntless as ever. He mustered a great army and set out for Scotland. He was too weak to ride, so his men carried him in a litter.

11. When he came in sight of the Solway Firth he had to yield to the power which conquers even kings. Edward died, and his son turned and marched back to London without striking a blow. He buried his father under a marble slab in Westminster Abbey, and on it to this day you may read the words, "Here lies Edward, Hammer of the Scots. Keep faith."

20. ROBERT THE BRUCE.—II.

1. The first Edward, though cruel, was a bold, strong, clever man. The second Edward was a shiftless, thriftless coward, and was ruled by a saucy favourite.

2. In the third year of his reign the barons rose against the king, and took all the power out of his hands. They cut off the head of the favourite, and then there was something like peace in the land.

3. Meanwhile in Scotland Bruce was gaining ground every day. Castle after castle was taken, and at last only

Stirling, seated high on its rock, was left in the power of the English. Then even Edward saw that it was time to be up and doing.

4. He got together the largest army that had ever been led against Scotland. Altogether it numbered one hundred thousand men. To meet it King Robert had only forty thousand fighting men.

5. The Scottish king was a good general, and knew well how to choose his ground. He knew that his men could not stand against Edward's splendid cavalry, so he took care to fight the battle on ground where the English horsemen would be of little or no use. He posted his men on rising ground, with the Bannock Burn on his left and in front. Between the burn and his army was a broad bog.

6. There was only one way open for the English to get at him, and that was on his left. Here he dug a number of pits, and covered them over with turf, so that they looked level and firm to the eye. He knew that as soon as the heavy horses of the English set foot on them, down would go steed and rider.

7. On Sunday morning, the 23rd of June, in the year 1314, the armies stood face to face. Bruce rode from rank to rank, laughing and talking gaily. He was in full armour, with a light crown of gold on his helmet, and was riding a little brown pony. In his hand was his trusty battle-axe.

8. A knight, named De Bohun, rode out a bow-shot from the front of the English army, and saw Bruce on his light pony. He thought that he could easily overcome him, so, levelling his spear and spurring his great charger, he came thundering straight towards the king.

THE BATTLE OF BANNOCKBURN.

(From the picture by Allan Stewart specially painted for this book.)

9. Bruce waited for him calmly. Just as the English knight was upon him, he touched the pony's rein, and the little animal sprang to one side. Then, as De Bohun dashed by, Bruce rose in his stirrups and made a furious blow at the Englishman's helmet. The axe clove through helmet and head, and down went De Bohun a dead man, while his steed galloped riderless away.

10. This was the first stroke of the fight. The Scots cheered loudly, but some of the nobles scolded the king for risking his life. "Had you been killed," said they, "our cause would have been lost." Bruce paid no heed to them. All he said was, "I have broken my good axe."

11. Next morning the battle began in real earnest. The horsemen dashed forward, but they struggled in the burn and the bog, or fell into the pits which Bruce had dug in their path. Those who reached the Scottish line were thrust back time after time by the sturdy spearmen. The English could not pierce the wall of steel.

12. Just at this moment the English thought they saw a new army drawing near. What they really saw was a band of Scottish camp-followers and servants, who had made banners of sheets and blankets tied to sticks and tent-poles. They had formed themselves into ranks, and now they marched down a hill towards the battle. At this sight the English broke and fled. The battle was over, and Scotland was free once more.

13. Bruce was now really King of Scotland. As for the wretched Edward, he fled from the field, and carried the news of his defeat to England. Once more he fell into the hands of favourites, and this time the barons said that he

was unfit to reign. They put him in prison, and placed his little son on the throne. For nearly a year Edward was treated with great cruelty. Then one night terrible shrieks were heard from his prison, and next morning he was found dead.

21. "THE KING-MAKER."—I.

1. The boy who was crowned in place of Edward the Second, his father, grew up to be one of the most warlike kings that England has ever known. He fought in Scotland, but without success. Afterwards he crossed over to France, and began a war which lasted, off and on, for about a hundred years.

2. I shall not stay to tell you about this Edward, who was known as Edward the Third. You have already read how he took Calais, and you know something of his famous son, the Black Prince. I shall also pass by the reign of his grandson, Richard the Second, and that of Henry the Fourth, Richard's cousin, and come at once to the stirring days of Henry the Fifth.

3. It was Henry the Fifth who won France for England. It did not remain long in our hands. In the reign of his weak son, Henry the Sixth, it was all lost, except Calais and the Channel Islands. You know the story of how we were driven out of France, and I am sure that you have not forgotten the part that poor Joan of Arc played in it.

4. Now, in the reign of Henry the Sixth the English nobles took sides, and fought against each other. This war is known as the War of the Roses.

5. Henry was the head of the Lancastrians, or Red Rose party. He was descended from John, Duke of Lancaster, the fourth son of Edward the Third. The head of the Yorkists, or White Rose party, was Richard, Duke of York. He was descended from the third son of Edward the Third, and claimed to have a better right to the throne than Henry.

6. The two parties came to blows in the year 1455. I shall not describe the war year by year, but I am going to tell you about a nobleman who took the chief part in it. He was so powerful that he was known as "The King-maker." He was the Earl of Warwick, the chief earl of England.

7. He was very rich, and he kept troops of men in his pay, all of them wearing his badge, "the bear and the ragged staff." His uncle was the Duke of York, and he was therefore a White Rose man. The first battle of the war was fought at St. Albans, and it was really won by the Earl of Warwick.

8. The Lancastrians were massed together in the streets of the town. Warwick put himself at the head of his men, and dashed into the main street with trumpets blowing and loud shouts of "A Warwick! A Warwick!" The battle was short but fierce; the Red Roses were overcome, and King Henry was taken prisoner.

9. The Duke of York now ruled in place of the king, but not for long. King Henry was a quiet, meek man, who had fits of madness; but Margaret, his queen, was a fierce, active woman, who was very fond of power. She hated the Duke of York, and she was not content to see her son set aside for him. So she went to and fro stirring up the nobles, and in a few years' time the war broke out afresh.

10. At that time Warwick was Governor of Calais, and he now crossed the Channel, bringing with him six hundred men in red jackets with white, ragged staves. A battle was fought, and the Yorkists were again victors, though they broke up without fighting when attacked the next year. Richard had then to fly to Ireland, and Warwick to Calais.

11. Margaret now ruled the land for her poor husband, but she was so cruel that many of the nobles turned against her. Then Warwick saw his chance, and once more crossed the Channel with his friends. The whole of Kent joined him, the Londoners helped him, and another battle was fought and won. "The King-maker" had now made Richard king in all but name.

12. The poor old king was brought to London, and peace was patched up for a time. Richard agreed to let Henry be king as long as he lived. After his death Richard was to reign. This was all very well, but Queen Margaret had been left out of account. She now made a great effort, and got a strong army together. A fierce battle followed, and Margaret's men won.

13. Richard was slain on the battlefield. Queen Margaret had his head crowned with a paper crown, and set up on a spike above the walls of York. Warwick's father was captured, and beheaded next day.

14. Richard was dead, and now the head of the Yorkists was his son Edward, a young man of eighteen. He was a hard-hearted fellow, and so wicked that he almost takes rank with King John. Nevertheless, he was strong and clever, and well trained in the art of war.

15. Warwick strove hard for Edward, but Margaret over-

came his army and took hosts of prisoners. She was merciless to them, and had them tried by her seven-year-old son. This little child was allowed to choose the form of death by which each of the prisoners should die. Now you know the kind of woman Margaret was.

16. The Yorkists took the field again, and Warwick gained a great victory, which set Edward on the throne. He was "King-maker" once more. Henry, Margaret, and their son fled to Scotland, and Edward marched to London, where he was crowned king.

22. "THE KING-MAKER."—II.

1. Now that Edward the Fourth was king, he became reckless, and idle, and fonder than ever of wicked pleasures. The real king was "The King-maker." He loved work and power, and he soon made himself the most popular man in England. He caught poor King Henry and sent him to the Tower, where he was kept prisoner for five years.

2. Now comes the story of a great quarrel. Warwick told Edward that he ought to marry. Imagine his surprise when Edward said that he was married already to a beautiful lady, named Elizabeth Woodville. She was the daughter of a Red Rose father and the widow of a Red Rose husband. Edward now began to give lands and riches and high offices to her brothers and sisters.

3. You may be sure that this made "The King-maker" very angry indeed. Here was the king showing favour to his old enemies and slighting his best friend. The fact was

DEATH OF WARWICK.

(*From the picture by T. A. Houston, R.S.A.*)

that Edward was tired of being ruled by "The King-maker," and was trying to get rid of him.

4. At last an open quarrel broke out between them. Warwick got the king's younger brother, the Duke of Clarence, to join with him, and together they raised an army. They fought and won a battle, and then they seized Edward and put him in prison. "The King-maker" had made the king, and now he unmade him.

5. Both Henry and Edward were now in prison, and Warwick ruled the country for a short time. Then Edward was set free again, and "King-maker" and king became friends once more. Soon, however, they quarrelled again, and Edward's army chased Warwick and Clarence right through England from Manchester to Dartmouth. They just managed to escape to France.

6. Now Warwick began to plot a deep revenge. He went to Queen Margaret, and offered to fight for her. Margaret at first thought that Warwick's offer was a trick; but when she found out that he really meant what he said, she gladly welcomed his aid.

7. In 1470 Warwick and Clarence landed in Devonshire with an army, and told the people that they had come to put old King Henry on the throne once more. Men flocked to join them, and Warwick carried all before him. In a week he was master of England, and Edward was scudding across the North Sea to a place of safety. Once more "The King-maker" had made and unmade a king.

8. Old King Henry was brought out of prison, dressed in fine robes, and put on a splendid horse. He rode through London, while the people cheered and shouted, "God save

the king!" Poor Henry! The last time he was on horseback was when he was a prisoner on his way to the Tower. Of course Warwick was really king. Henry did just as he was told.

9. Now comes the last scene in this strange, eventful history. In the next spring Edward landed with an army in Yorkshire. Clarence left Warwick, and went off to join his brother. A terrible battle was fought at Barnet, near London on Easter Sunday morning. While the battle was raging a thick fog came on, and it was hard to tell friend from foe. At one time the two wings of Warwick's army were fighting against each other.

10. At mid-day the battle was over. Warwick's army fled, and Warwick put spurs to his horse, which carried him to the shelter of a wood, where he was followed and brought to bay. He was slain, and his dead body was taken to London for the people to see for themselves that "The King-maker" could never make or unmake kings again.

11. Margaret's cause was now almost lost, and Edward was once more king. She made one more attempt, but her army was totally defeated at Tewkesbury. Amongst the slain was Margaret's young son Edward.

12. Edward died after reigning fourteen years. He left his two young sons to the care of their uncle, Richard, Duke of Gloucester. You already know that this wicked uncle had his nephews murdered and became king.

13. You know, too, that Henry Richmond beat Richard at the battle of Bosworth, and left him dead on the field. With this battle the long misery of the War of the Roses came to an end.

23. THOMAS WOLSEY.—I.

1. There was great joy in England at the end of the War of the Roses. Henry the Seventh, the new Red Rose king, married the Princess Elizabeth, who represented the White Roses, and thus the Roses were united. The country was sick of war, and it wished to enjoy a time of comfort and peace.

2. There were some Yorkists, however, who were not content. They still plotted, and they supported two sham princes, who caused a good deal of trouble. Henry overcame them both. He spared the life of the first, and made him a cook in the royal kitchen. The second took seven years to subdue. He was beaten at last, and hanged.

3. I shall not tell you much now about the reign of Henry the Seventh. He strove hard to bring peace to the land, and in order to do this he took away as much power as he could from the nobles. Many of the nobles had been killed in the War of the Roses, and many of those who survived were very poor.

4. Then Henry began to show the spirit of a miser. He ground money out of his people in all sorts of unlawful ways, and when he died he left a huge store of wealth behind him for his son to enjoy. This son was Henry the Eighth.

5. He was only eighteen when he became king, but he had already shown himself clever and active. He was a bright, handsome youth, fond of horses and hounds, of books and music. At first he was very much liked.

6. Afterwards he became a tyrant, and he ruled as a

Henry the Eighth and Cardinal Wolsey.

(From the picture by Sir John Gilbert, R.A., in the Guildhall Art Gallery, London.)

tyrant for forty years. Yet he was so clever that he never had a serious quarrel with his people, nor did he need to keep an army to make them obey him.

7. The greatest man of Henry's reign was Thomas Wolsey, the son of an Ipswich butcher. Wolsey when a lad was very clever, and was sent to Oxford, where he took his degree of Bachelor of Arts at the early age of fifteen. At twenty-four he became a priest, and was soon promoted in the Church.

8. When he was thirty-two years of age he became chaplain—that is, priest—in the household of King Henry the Seventh, who soon noticed what an active, able man he was.

9. An old story tells us that Henry the Seventh once sent Wolsey with a message to a great emperor, who was then in Flanders. Four days later the king saw Wolsey at the court, and scolded him roundly for not having started on his journey. "Sire," said Wolsey, "I have been to Flanders, and I have returned."

10. The king was astonished. Wolsey had crossed the Channel, had done the king's bidding, and had returned to England all within three days. You may be sure that the king was pleased to have such a man in his service.

11. Henry the Eighth made a great friend of Wolsey from the first. He was the king's chosen companion in work and in play. He could dance, and jest, and sing songs to amuse his master, and he was his right-hand man in the work of the State.

12. He did all Henry's foreign business, and did it very well. Henry gave him great wealth, and made him Chancellor of England and Archbishop of York. The Pope also made him a cardinal or prince of the Church.

24. THOMAS WOLSEY.—II.

1. A writer who lived at this time tells us that every morning after prayers Wolsey used to go to Westminster Hall in great state.* He was dressed in his cardinal's robes, all in red, with a tippet of fine sable, and shoes of gold studded with jewels.

2. He was attended by noblemen and gentlemen in costly dresses. Crowds flocked to see him, and poor persons knelt down as he passed and asked him to right their wrongs.

3. Wolsey strode through them all with the air of a king. In his hand he held an orange, in which had been placed a sponge filled with scent. He smelt this from time to time, and thus protected himself against catching disease from sick persons in the crowd.

4. In front of him a bareheaded nobleman carried the Great Seal of England, and another followed bearing his cardinal's hat. When he came to the Hall, two great crosses of silver and a gilt mace were borne before him, and officers shouted, "Make way for my lord's grace!"

5. Then he took his seat on the bench, and tried the cases brought before him. We are told that he spared neither high nor low, rich nor poor, but did justice to all.

6. Of course Wolsey made many enemies by all this pomp and show. No doubt many of those who were envious of him would say,—

> "Born by butcher, but by bishops bred,
> How high his Highness heaves his haughty head!"

* See Frontispiece.

His haughty head was soon to be laid low. Let me tell you how it happened.

7. Henry had married Catherine, a Spanish princess, who was the widow of his elder brother Arthur. Catherine was not beautiful, but she was a very kind, gentle, and good woman. For ten or twelve years the married life of the king and queen was happy.

8. The king then fell in love with Anne Boleyn, one of the queen's maids of honour. Soon he wished to get rid of his wife, in order that he might marry the beautiful Anne. He then said that his marriage with Catherine was no marriage at all, because she had been his brother's wife. He had been married to Catherine for eighteen years, but only now did he discover that his marriage with her was not a true marriage.

9. Wolsey went down on his knees and begged his master not to be led away by Anne; but the king would not listen to him. At last, however, Wolsey promised that he would endeavour to get the Pope to declare that Henry was free to marry.

10. Wolsey found his task much more difficult than he expected. The Pope was then in the power of Catherine's nephew, whom he dared not offend. At the same time he wished to oblige Henry.

11. At last he said that Wolsey and another cardinal should inquire into the case, and say whether the king was really married or not. In this way he hoped to put off the matter for a time.

12. On the 1st of June, in the year 1529, the two cardinals held their court at Windsor, and Henry and Catherine were

ordered to appear before it. The poor, ill-used queen said that the court had no power to try her, and that she would not submit to it.

13. Then she knelt at the king's feet, and said that for twenty years she had been his good and faithful wife. She begged him not to put her away now. The king pretended to be much overcome; but really he had made up his mind to marry Anne, and nothing could move him from his purpose.

25. THOMAS WOLSEY.—III.

1. The case dragged on for some months, and then Anne Boleyn and her friends became very angry with Wolsey, and said that he was the cause of the delay.

2. Even now the Pope was unwilling to give judgment. To gain more time, he ordered the parties to appear before him at Rome. Henry was very angry at this, and he now said that Wolsey had bungled the matter. He turned against his old and faithful friend in bitter anger. The day of Wolsey's downfall had come.

3. It was not hard to find fault with Wolsey, and his enemies were soon busy raking up charges against him. On one of these charges he was tried and found guilty. Most of his palaces and lands were taken from him, and he was sent to live at York.

4. You will perhaps think that the king was content now that he had disgraced his old servant. I am sorry to say that he was not. In a short time he sent officers to York to bring Wolsey back to London, to be tried as a traitor.

5. Slowly Wolsey made his way southward. He was heart-broken at losing the king's favour, and was very ill. When he reached Leicester he could go no farther. It was dark when he entered the town, and when he reached the abbey where he was to rest for the night the monks came out to meet him.

6. "Sir Abbot," he said wearily, "I have come to lay my bones among you." So he had, for he took to his bed and never rose again. His faithful servant, Thomas Cromwell, was with him to the last. Shakespeare tells us that before he died Wolsey said,—

> "O Cromwell, Cromwell!
> Had I but served my God with half the zeal
> I served my king, He would not in mine age
> Have left me naked to mine enemies."

Henry showed no sorrow at the death of his old friend.

7. Thomas Cranmer, the king's chaplain, now undertook to get some learned men to say that Henry's marriage was unlawful. When this was done the king married Anne Boleyn. The Pope then became so angry that he drove Henry out of the Church.

8. This was the beginning of the king's great quarrel with the Pope. Henry now said that the Pope had no power in England at all, but that the king, and no one else, was head of the Church of England. The quarrel went on until Henry died.

9. Meanwhile the teachings of a German monk, named Martin Luther, had been gaining ground in England. Luther taught that men ought to take their religion from the Bible,

and from nowhere else. He said that the Church then believed many things which were not according to Bible teaching. The followers of Luther were called Protestants, because they protested against the teachings of the Church of Rome.

10. Henry was never a Protestant. Though he had cut off his kingdom from the Pope, he still believed in the old faith. He not only put to death those who stood by the Pope, but those who believed in Luther's teachings. The Protestants, however, grew in number every day ; and soon after Henry died the Church of England became a Protestant Church.

26. SIR HUMPHREY GILBERT.

1. Henry the Eighth had six wives and three children. His eldest child was Mary, the daughter of Catherine ; the second was Elizabeth, the daughter of Anne Boleyn ; the third was Edward, the son of Jane Seymour, whom Henry married after beheading Anne Boleyn.

2. All these children came to the throne. First came Edward, who was a sickly lad of ten when his father died. The government was really in the hands of his uncle, who was a Protestant, and did much to bring about the great change in religion. Edward died in his sixteenth year.

3. Mary's reign was a sad, troubled time. She set herself to restore the power of the Pope in England. Her marriage with Philip of Spain was much disliked, and her people rejoiced at her death.

4. Then Elizabeth became queen, and perhaps the

most splendid page in our history opened. In Elizabeth's reign the English as a nation first felt the call of the sea. English sailors fought the Spaniards wherever they met them, and seized their richly-laden ships.

5. Because the English people had changed their religion, and because Elizabeth had put Mary Queen of Scots to death, the Catholic kings of Europe were very angry with England and England's queen. Philip of Spain was their champion. He sent a great fleet to conquer the country. You know how the ships of the Armada were destroyed. "God blew with His wind, and they were scattered."

6. The Spaniards were beaten because the English people were very loyal to their queen and country, and because they had some of the bravest and most fearless leaders who have ever lived. England has never had so many great sailors, statesmen, and scholars as she had in Elizabeth's reign. Let me tell you about one of these great men.

7. His name was Sir Humphrey Gilbert. He was a Devonshire man, and half-brother to Sir Walter Raleigh, about whom you read in Book II. He was one of the best and bravest gentlemen then living. Nothing pleased him so much as studying the voyages which sailors were then making to America and the unknown parts of the world.

8. He thought over the stories which they told, and pored over the maps which they made, and at last he felt sure that there must be a way to the Far East by crossing the Atlantic Ocean, and sailing westwards along the northern shores of North America. He did not know what we know now—that this sea-road can never be of any use to ships, because it is always blocked with ice.

9. However, he fitted out a ship, and tried to discover a way to the East by sailing west. He failed, and returned to England; but a few years later he sailed again, and this time discovered the island of Newfoundland, which lies at the mouth of the great river St. Lawrence.

10. He had two ships with him, a little vessel called the *Squirrel* and a larger ship called the *Golden Hind*. He chose to come home from Newfoundland on board the *Squirrel*. His friends begged him to sail on board the larger ship, for the smaller vessel was not fit to battle against the storms of winter. Sir Humphrey, however, stuck to his purpose, and said, "I will not forsake my little company, with whom I have passed through so many storms and perils."

11. When the ships were to the north of the Azores terrible seas arose, and the smaller ship was nearly swamped. Through all the foul weather Sir Humphrey, gallant gentleman as he was, sat on the deck, calm and unmoved, reading a book. The last time that the *Golden Hind* was within hail he called out, "We are as near to heaven by sea as by land."

12. During the night of Monday, the 9th of September, in the year 1583, the watchers on the *Golden Hind* suddenly missed the lights of the *Squirrel*. She had gone down with all her crew.

13. Thus perished one of Elizabeth's bravest seamen. I have told you his story to give you some idea of the bold, fearless, godly men by whom she was served so faithfully. Sir Humphrey Gilbert was not the greatest seaman of his time. He was only one of the large and goodly company which includes Sir Walter Raleigh, Sir Francis Drake, and Sir John Hawkins.

The Earl of Strafford on his way to Execution.

(From the painting by Paul Delaroche. By permission of the Duke of Sutherland.)

27. EARL STRAFFORD.

1. Elizabeth was never married, and when she died the heir to the throne was James, the son of Mary Queen of Scots. James was already King of Scotland, and now he became King of England too. From this time forward Scotland and England had the same sovereign.

2. I shall not stay to describe the reign of James, but I must tell you about one of the strange beliefs which he held, and which he taught only too well to his unhappy son. James firmly believed that kings were chosen by Heaven, and that peoples were made for kings, and not kings for peoples.

3. He said that as kings were chosen by Heaven, it was wicked for any subject to disobey the king's command, or even to find fault with his doings, however bad they might be. This strange belief was called the "divine right of kings."

4. Now the British people have always held quite a different opinion. They claim to choose their own king, and to make the laws which he must obey. They claim, too, that no king has a right to tax them without their consent. They will not give him money to carry on the government unless he undertakes to set right those wrongs of which they complain.

5. As James and his Parliament held such very different opinions on this question, you may be sure that they quarrelled a great deal. In the reign of his son Charles the First the quarrel grew so fierce that a great civil war broke out.

6. Charles was a much better man than his father. He

really wished to be a good king, but he never could unlearn the bad lessons which his father had taught him.

7. Before long the members of Parliament said they would give no money to carry on the government unless the king punished one of his bad officers of state. To this Charles replied, "You must know that I will not let any of my servants be questioned by you—much less those that are of high place and near to me." The Parliament, however, would not give way; and when Charles saw this, he sent the members home.

8. The next Parliament was called two years later, but it too was dissolved. Then Charles ruled without a Parliament for eleven years. He raised what taxes he thought proper, and he made what laws he pleased. Two men helped him to do these wrongful things — one in the Church, and the other in the State.

9. The man who managed State affairs for Charles was Thomas Wentworth, a Yorkshireman. He had a dark, gloomy face and rough manners, but great strength of mind and will. At first he was against the king, then he went over to the king's side. His old comrades in the House of Commons were very angry with him for doing so, and one of them said, "Though you leave us now, we will never leave you while you have a head on your shoulders."

10. The king made Wentworth Earl of Strafford, and gave him the government of the north of England, and then of Ireland. He ruled with a rod of iron. He ground down the people, and raised an army in Ireland to support the unlawful rule of the king. In all sorts of

Charles the First and Speaker Lenthall.

(From the fresco by C. W. Cope, R.A., in the House of Parliament.)

ways he robbed the people of their liberties, and made the king the tyrant of the land.

11. At last the people were so angry that the king was obliged to call a Parliament together. Then Strafford was brought to trial before the House of Lords. For fifteen days the trial went on, and Strafford bore himself with great courage. Charles had given his faithful servant a promise that he would save his life.

12. Strafford was finally condemned to death. The king, to his undying shame, did not lift a finger to save him. "Put not your trust in princes," said Strafford, and then he prepared to die like the brave man that he was.

13. As they led him to Tower Hill, he passed beneath the prison window of his old friend Laud, who had tried to govern the Church in much the same way that Strafford had governed the State. Laud stretched forth his hands through the bars and gave Strafford his blessing. Then Strafford passed on to his death. After forgiving the headsman, and kneeling in prayer, he laid his head on the block. The axe fell, and throughout the land arose the joyful cry, "His head is off!"

28. JOHN HAMPDEN.

1. In the last lesson I told you the sad story of Earl Strafford, the man who helped Charles to rule as a tyrant. Now let me tell you about one of those who opposed the king. His name was John Hampden, and he was a gentleman of Buckinghamshire.

JOHN HAMPDEN LEAVING CHALGROVE FIELD.
(*From the painting by W. Frank Calderon.*)

2. When he was thirty-four years of age he became a member of Parliament, and at once took the side of those who were trying to make the king rule in a lawful manner. He did not make many speeches in Parliament, but he helped to prepare many of the laws that were passed.

3. When Charles began to rule without a Parliament, he had to do all sorts of mean and unlawful things to get money. It would take too long to tell you all the cunning and unjust ways in which he seized the money and goods of his subjects, and punished those who would not pay. We will pass on to what is known as "ship-money," for it was this tax that made John Hampden famous.

4. In olden days places on the sea-coast had to pay a tax in time of war, to provide ships for the royal navy. It was now a time of peace, but for all that Charles collected the tax, and not only from the seaports but from inland places as well.

5. John Hampden was ordered to pay twenty shillings of ship-money for some of his land. He refused to do so. The sum was small, and Hampden was rich ; but it was not twenty shillings that was at stake, but the much more important question—Has the king any right to tax his people without their consent ?

6. Twelve judges sat to try the case, and the lawyers were busy for about six weeks. At last seven of the judges said that the king had a right to tax the people how and when he wished, and that Hampden must pay ; while five of them said the king had no such right, and Hampden was not bound to pay.

7. The king had won his case, but most of the people

felt that Hampden had fought their battle, and they were grateful to him for doing so. Soon after, the king was obliged to call together a Parliament, and Hampden was a member of it. We are told that "the eyes of all men were fixed upon him as the pilot who must steer the ship of State through the tempest and rocks which threatened it."

8. Hampden took a leading part in bringing Strafford to trial, but he had not yet lost faith in the king. At last Charles did a deed which made Hampden see that the king would never consent to rule in a lawful way, and that force must be used to make him do so.

9. The king's friends in the House of Lords were now trying to get Hampden and four other members of Parliament brought to trial as traitors. Meanwhile, the king took three or four hundred soldiers, and went to the House of Commons to seize these members. They had been warned that Charles was coming, so they fled to the City of London, where the people were very angry with the king and took up arms to defend them.

10. Charles strode into the House of Commons, and called for the five members by name. No one answered, so he said, "Mr. Speaker, where are the five members whose names I have called? Do you see them?"

11. The Speaker bent his knee to the king, and said, "Your Majesty, I have neither eyes to see nor tongue to speak anything but what the House of Commons commands me." Upon this the king said, "I see the birds have flown." Then he walked out of the House, baffled and beaten, leaving the members full of rage.

12. It was now clear that nothing but war could settle

who was to be master—king or Parliament. Most of the nobles and country gentlemen took the side of the king; most of the townsfolk took the side of the Parliament. In August 1642 the king raised his standard at Nottingham, and war began.

13. Hampden buckled on his sword and took the field. He raised a regiment of foot-soldiers, and his "Green Coats" soon became famous. On his breast he bore these words:—

> "Not against the king I fight,
> But for the king and country's right."

In one or two small fights he beat the king's friends, but he arrived too late to take part in the first great battle of the war.

14. After this battle Charles withdrew with his troops to Oxford. From time to time his horsemen rode out and fell upon the enemy. It was during one of these fights that John Hampden was killed. He was trying to prevent the king's soldiers from getting back to Oxford, when he was shot through the shoulder.

15. He was seen to ride off the field with his head hanging down, and resting his hands on the neck of his horse. It is said that Charles offered to send his own doctor to attend him. Whether this is true or not, it is certain that the king would have done much to win this great and good man over to his side. Six days later he died of his wound.

16. The whole nation mourned for him. "Every honest man," wrote one of his friends, "hath a share in the loss, and will likewise have a share in the sorrow." John Hampden will always be remembered as one of the champions of that liberty which Britons love so dearly.

KING CHARLES ON THE EVE OF THE BATTLE OF EDGEHILL.

(*From the picture by Charles Landseer, R.A.*)

1. Charles, Prince of Wales, afterwards Charles II. 2 James, Duke of York, afterwards James II. 3. Prince Rupert. 4. Charles I.

29. THE "MAD CAVALIER."

1. The commander of the Cavaliers, or king's horse-soldiers, was Prince Rupert, nephew of the king. He was a soldier born and bred, and had fought on battlefields since boyhood. So rash and fiery was he that his friends called him "Dashing Prince Rupert." His enemies called him the "Mad Cavalier."

2. Rupert was not a good general, but he won several battles at the beginning of the war. Let me tell you what he did in the first great battle that was fought. You will then see what sort of a general he was.

3. The battle took place at Edgehill, in Warwickshire. The king's men were on a hill-side, while the Roundheads were drawn up on the plain below. While the Roundheads were getting into order, Rupert rode to the head of his horse-soldiers, and waving his sword, cried, "Charge! charge for the king!"

4. Off dashed the gallant horsemen, with loud huzzas. With a thunder of hoofs and a gleam of steel, they galloped down upon the Roundhead cavalry, and scattered it like chaff before the wind. Again and again they charged, and nothing could stand against them.

5. Then, mad with the joy of victory, they rode on through the fields and lanes, driving the flying Roundheads before them. They quite forgot their comrades who were fighting on the plain.

6. When they returned at nightfall, worn out with their long ride, they found, to their surprise, that the king's men were not victors after all. Oliver Cromwell, a colonel of

the Roundhead cavalry, had gathered together some of the horse-soldiers whom Rupert had scattered, and had driven the king's foot-soldiers away in disorder. The Roundhead general had forced his way through the centre of the king's line, and had seized the royal standard and the big guns.

7. Thus the battle was drawn, chiefly because Rupert's men had galloped away from the field, instead of going to the support of the foot-soldiers. Again and again Rupert made the same mistake. Though his horsemen were very much feared by the Roundheads, they did not win many battles.

PORTRAIT OF PRINCE RUPERT, BY HIMSELF.

8. Now a short time before this battle Cromwell, who was then a simple captain of horse, had been talking with John Hampden about the weakness of the Roundhead cavalry. He said that, while the Cavaliers were gentlemen's sons, the Roundhead horse-soldiers were only old serving-men and base fellows from the inns. "We must get men of spirit," he said, "or we shall be beaten time after time."

9. Cromwell's words seemed so sensible that he was allowed to raise a regiment of horse-soldiers. He picked out two thousand strong, sober-minded men, and trained them well. They were afterwards known as Ironsides.

Cromwell at Dunbar.

(From the painting by A. C. Gow, R.A., in the National Gallery of British Art. By permission of the Berlin Photographic Co.)

"The Lord General rode a foot, and sang the 117th Psalm till our horse could gather up the chase."

10. At the battle of Marston Moor, near York, Cromwell had his first chance of seeing what his Ironsides could do against the king's cavalry. The battle began about seven in the evening. The Ironsides charged down the hill, with Cromwell at their head, and after a long, fierce fight, Rupert's horsemen were driven from the field. Instead of flying after them, as Rupert would have done, Cromwell turned to help the foot-soldiers in the centre.

11. The Roundheads on the right had been scattered by another division of the Cavalier horsemen, who had ridden after the flying foe. When they straggled back to the field, they found that the battle was lost and won. The Ironsides had proved more than a match for the Cavaliers.

12. Rupert himself was nearly taken prisoner. He only escaped by hiding in a beanfield. The white poodle which never left his side was killed in the fight, and Rupert was much grieved at the loss of his faithful companion.

13. In a later battle Rupert again lost the day by letting his men gallop off the field in pursuit of the foe. Charles was very angry with him, and in the next year he took away Rupert's command.

14. The war went on, and a whole army was trained after the pattern of the Ironsides. Nothing could stand against this "new-model" army, and the war soon came to an end. The king yielded to the Scots, and the Scots gave him up to the Parliament.

15. You already know that he was tried for waging war against his people, and was found guilty. On the 30th of January 1649 his head was cut off, and the army, which was now master of the country, said it would have no more kings.

30. ROBERT BLAKE.

1. There was still much fighting to be done before the king's friends were overcome. Ireland and Scotland were in arms against the Commonwealth, as the new government was called. Cromwell crossed over to Ireland with a powerful army, and carried fire and sword through the land.

2. When Ireland was crushed, Cromwell turned his attention to Scotland, where Prince Charles, the son of the late king, had raised a large army. Cromwell defeated this army at Dunbar. Another army raised shortly afterwards was beaten at Worcester. Then Prince Charles had to fly, and after weeks of hiding, and many narrow escapes, he got away safely to France.

ROBERT BLAKE.

3. Cromwell was now master of the country, and a very strong ruler he proved himself. Though he had put down the king's friends on land, they still fought him on the seas. Part of the fleet was fighting for the king, and, under Prince Rupert, it was giving great trouble.

4. Cromwell chose as his admiral an army colonel, named Robert Blake. He had fought well against the king, and was a very brave and trustworthy man. Before long he

proved himself as good a sailor as he had been a soldier.

5. Blake set off in pursuit of Rupert, but had hard work to catch him. Time after time Rupert, with great cleverness, got away from him. At last, however, Blake caught him, and destroyed all his fleet but three ships.

6. Blake had now to meet a much more powerful enemy than Rupert. Parliament had made a law which did great harm to the Dutch, whose ships at that time carried on most of the trade of the world. The Dutch declared war, and Blake was made admiral of the British fleet.

7. The Dutch were commanded by Van Tromp. He had risen from cabin-boy to admiral, and he was a fine sailor. He had a splendid fleet under his command, and many well-trained sailors. The English, on the other hand, had only a few worn-out vessels, which were manned by soldiers, and not by sailors. Cromwell, however, soon had a number of new ships built and properly fitted out for war. We must always remember that he was the first ruler to give us a real British navy.

8. In May 1652 the first great sea-fight which the English had fought since the days of Elizabeth took place off the North Foreland. The Dutch had a much larger and better fleet than the English, but Blake and his men fought with such courage that the battle was drawn, and the Dutch fleet was obliged to sail for home. Blake's ships were too much injured to follow them.

9. The Dutch were very angry, and they now fitted out a great fleet of nearly a hundred ships. The next battle took place in November. Blake and his men fought as

gallantly as ever, but the Dutch were too strong for them. They were beaten, and had to take refuge in the Thames.

10. An old story tells us that Van Tromp then sailed up and down the English Channel with a broom at his masthead. By hoisting the broom he meant that he had swept the seas clean of English ships.

11. Of course the English were soon ready to attack the Dutch again. Blake and his men were eager to wipe out their disgrace. A number of fierce battles followed, and Blake defeated the Dutch more than once. It is said that he then hoisted a whip at his masthead, to show that he had whipped the Dutch from the seas.

12. In one of these battles he was badly wounded, and this prevented him from taking part in the last great sea-fight of the war. It was fought in the year 1653, and the Dutch were so badly beaten that they were glad to make peace. In this battle the gallant Van Tromp was killed.

13. Three years later Cromwell declared war on Philip the Fourth of Spain, and Blake was sent to capture the Spanish ships which were coming home from America laden with silver. I have no time to tell you of the many gallant deeds which he did. In one great battle he burned or sank every ship of the Spanish fleet.

14. He was now worn out with hard work and disease, and he longed for his native land, where he hoped to spend his last days in peace. He set sail for England. As the weeks drew on, he asked every day if the white cliffs of England were in sight. When at last the look-out on the masthead called out "Land O!" Blake was a dying man.

15. He called his captains to him, and bade them fare-

well. Just as they sighted Plymouth he breathed his last. The English people were ready to welcome him, but their joy was turned to mourning. They buried their hero with great state in Westminster Abbey.

31. SIR CHRISTOPHER MYNGS.

1. Cromwell had made his country rich and powerful; but for all that, the people did not love him. When he died, they were eager to welcome King Charles, the son of the Charles whose head they had cut off.

2. Charles was now a young man of thirty. For nine years, since his flight from Worcester, he had lived abroad, poor and homeless. Now that he had been asked to become King of England, he meant to live in comfort, and never go on his travels again.

3. He was a clever but selfish man, and fond of wicked pleasures. He wasted his people's money, and set a shocking example to his subjects by his wild life.

4. In the last lesson I told you how Cromwell formed a navy, and how Robert Blake beat the Dutch and the Spaniards, and won for us the mastery of the sea. All that had been won under Cromwell was lost under Charles the Second. Parliament gave Charles plenty of money to keep up the navy, but he spent it on his own wicked pleasures. Five years after he came to the throne the Dutch war broke out again, and disgraceful events followed.

5. Many of Blake's old captains were alive, but they were not allowed to command the king's fleet. Charles chose as

his admirals Prince Rupert, and General Monk, who had been the chief man in bringing the king back to England. Neither of these men knew how to handle a fleet. Monk once ordered his fleet to "wheel to the right!"

6. There were many able and gallant officers in the navy, and the best of them was named Christopher Myngs. He was the son of a shoemaker. He went to sea as a lad, and rose to be mate of a man-o'-war called the *Elizabeth*.

7. On her homeward voyage from the Mediterranean the *Elizabeth* fought a Dutch ship, and in the fight her captain was killed. Myngs was then made captain in his place. He fought many gallant fights with the Dutch, and took many prizes. Four years after Charles came to the throne Myngs was made an admiral, and the next year a knight. He fought his last fight against the Dutch in the year 1666.

8. Prince Rupert and General Monk managed affairs so badly that the Dutch won a great victory. Myngs fought like a lion, but neither his bravery nor his skill could make up for the weakness of the chief admirals.

9. The battle lasted four days, and Myngs was absent during the three first days. On the fourth day he led the van in the *Victory*, and made straight for the flagship of the Dutch admiral. The two vessels lay so close that their yard-arms touched.

10. The fight was fierce and long. The Dutch ship lost her mast, and was about to yield, when other Dutch ships sailed up to help her. They surrounded the *Victory* and fiercely attacked her, but Myngs still fought on without a thought of yielding.

THE DUTCH IN THE MEDWAY.

(*From the picture by Langendyk, a Dutch artist.*)

11. In the height of the battle he was shot through the throat, but he would not leave the deck to have his wound dressed. He remained on deck, pressing his throat with his fingers. At last another bullet struck him, and he fell with a death-wound.

12. He was buried in London, and after his funeral a dozen of his sailors, with tears in their eyes, came up to an officer who was present and spoke to him. They said: "We are here, a dozen of us that have long known, and loved, and served our dead commander, Sir Christopher Myngs, and have now done the last office of laying him in the ground.

13. "Our lives are all that we have. If you will give us a fireship, and choose one of us to be captain, the rest of us will serve him, and we will soon revenge our dead commander."

14. This shows you how greatly Sir Christopher Myngs was loved by his ship's company. Our country always needs brave, upright, and God-fearing men like this brave sailor, but never did it need them more than in the disgraceful days of Charles the Second.

15. A year had hardly gone by when the Dutch sailed up the Medway and burned the dockyard and ships at Chatham. The fleet could have prevented this, but the ships were without powder and shot. Charles and his courtiers starved the ships and starved the sailors, and spent the money on their own selfish pleasures. There were many people in England who sighed for the days of "Old Noll," as they called Cromwell.

32. "KING" MONMOUTH.

1. On his death-bed Charles the Second declared himself a Roman Catholic. His brother James, who now became king, was a convert to Catholicism. For this reason, some of the leading men tried to prevent him from being king, but they failed.

2. James was a better man than his brother, but he was quite pitiless, and could never forget and forgive. From the first he meant to bring back the old religion to this country. In trying to do so he lost his throne.

3. Now at this time a young man, named James, Duke of Monmouth, was living abroad. His father was King Charles, and his mother was the daughter of a Welsh gentleman. He was vain and not very brave, but the English people liked him because he was a Protestant. There were many people who wished him to be king instead of James.

4. Now, the Scottish Protestants had been very badly treated by King Charles. While Monmouth was abroad he met their leader, whose name was Archibald Campbell, Earl of Argyll. Monmouth and Argyll now agreed to invade Britain. They thought they had only to call the people to arms, and James would be driven from the throne.

5. Argyll was the first to land. He went to his own Highland country, and sent the "fiery cross" among his people. This was a rough cross of yew wood, which had been set on fire, and quenched in the blood of a goat. It was carried by swift runners from glen to glen, and was a sign that every man between sixteen and sixty was to take up arms and fight for his chief.

The Last Sleep of Argyll.

(From the fresco by E. M. Ward, R.A., in Westminster Palace.)

6. Few people except his own clansmen joined him, and the Scots who had come with him from abroad began to quarrel amongst themselves. At last they left him without striking a blow, and Argyll had to fly for his life. He was caught by the king's soldiers, and carried to Edinburgh. One morning he was led forth and beheaded.

7. Monmouth landed at Lyme, on the coast of Dorsetshire, a month after Argyll had landed in Scotland. He set up his standard in the market-place, and said that the king was a tyrant and a Popish traitor, and that he had come to deliver the nation from him.

8. The miners and ploughmen of the west flocked to his blue banner, but the gentlefolks held aloof. Soon he was leading a mob of four thousand men, armed only with bill-hooks, scythes, and pitchforks. With these he marched to Taunton, and the whole town turned out to greet him.

9. The ladies waved a welcome to him from the windows as he rode along the street, girls strewed flowers in his way, and the men cheered loud and long at the sight of him. Twenty school-girls gave him a Bible, and a flag which they had worked with their own hands.

10. "King" Monmouth at last arrived at Bridgwater, and found that the king's troops were camped on Sedgemoor. He attacked them by night. I am sure you can guess the result of the battle. Monmouth's men fought bravely enough, but they could not stand against trained soldiers armed with good weapons.

11. The poor fellows, however, did not give way until Monmouth himself fled from the field. He dressed himself as a peasant, and hid in a ditch under the ferns and nettles.

Here he was found, with a handful of peas in his pocket. When he was caught he burst into tears.

12. He was bound with a cord of silk and taken before James. Falling to the ground he crawled up to the king, and begged for his life. Cold-hearted James never forgave or forgot, and, after scolding Monmouth for half an hour, he ordered his head to be cut off.

13. Then he sent down to the west a cruel judge, named Jeffreys, who was even more pitiless than the king himself. This cruel judge hanged more than three hundred persons almost without trial, and sent a thousand more as slaves to the West Indies. An old lady who had hidden runaways from Sedgemoor was beheaded, and even the girls who had given Monmouth the Bible and the flag were punished.

14. James now thought he could do as he pleased. He then tried to secure religious freedom for all sects in the country, but the people would have none of it. They sent for a deliverer from across the sea.

33. WILLIAM OF ORANGE.

1. This deliverer was William of Orange, the ruler of Holland. You will perhaps ask why he should be asked to come over and be King of England. Well, first of all, he was a Protestant; secondly, he was grandson of King Charles; and thirdly, he had married Mary, the eldest daughter of King James, who was a Protestant.

2. Towards the end of October, 1688, William was ready

The Prince of Orange landing at Torbay.

to sail; but for some days he could not, for the wind blew from the east. At length it changed, and what was called the "Protestant wind" carried his six hundred ships to the shores of England.

3. William's ship was called the *Brill*. At the mast-head was a great standard, with these words in bold, shining letters, "I will maintain the liberties of England and the Protestant religion."

4. On the 5th of November he landed at Torbay. You may still see the stone on which he stepped ashore. The next day, mounted on a white horse, he began his march towards London. Everywhere the people received him with open arms. James fled in terror.

5. Some people wished Mary to be queen and her husband to be what is called Prince Consort. William, however, said that he would never be his wife's servant. He would be king, and his wife should be queen. He said that if the British people would not agree to this, he would return to Holland. Then the crown was offered to William and Mary as king and queen.

6. First a paper was drawn up, setting forth all the unlawful things which James had done, and giving an account of the rights of the British people. William and Mary swore to maintain these rights, and to rule according to the law of England. Then they were crowned.

7. The new king and queen were not a well-matched pair. Mary was very lively, kind-hearted, and good-tempered. All who knew her loved her. William, on the other hand, was a cold, silent, gloomy man. Though he was always in bad health he was a fine soldier, and was much fonder of

the camp than the court. He had no great liking for the British people, and they never cared for him.

8. The first work he had to do was to conquer the Irish and the Highlanders of Scotland, who were in arms for James. The Highlanders were led by Viscount Dundee, a gallant but hard-hearted soldier, who had treated the Lowland Scots with great cruelty. Dundee beat William's army, but he was slain in the moment of victory, and his Highlanders then went home.

9. In Ireland, where most of the people were Roman Catholics, William had a much harder task. When James landed at Kinsale, three months after he had run away from England, he found nearly one hundred thousand Irish Catholics ready to fight for him. The Irish Protestants in the north had fled for safety to two towns.

10. One of these towns was Londonderry. The old city stands on the west side of the broad river Foyle, whose waters mingle with those of the Atlantic Ocean, twenty miles away. Londonderry is built on a height which is crowned by an old cathedral.

11. When the friends of James came to seize Londonderry, some of the leading men were ready to give up the town. The 'prentice boys, however, would not hear of it. Thirteen of them closed the gates with their own hands, and bade the friends of James do their worst.

12. Soon the Irish army was besieging the town, and a great boom, made of fir planks and iron cables, was stretched across the river, so that no ships could sail up to the city. The town was in a poor state to stand a siege. Its walls were old and weak, and it had but few cannon.

34. THE SIEGE OF LONDONDERRY.

1. James now came to take part in the siege himself, and the Governor of Londonderry sent to him to say that he would yield up the town. When, however, James rode towards the walls, the people poured such a heavy fire on him that he was obliged to fly for his life.

2. The false governor fled, and then a soldier named Baker and a clergyman named George Walker were the leading men in the town. Walker used to preach with a sword in one hand and a Bible in the other, and so brave and cheerful was he that the townsfolk kept up their courage through the long weeks of hunger and suffering.

3. There was very little food, and the people had to feed on rats, mice, dogs, and horses. At last all these were eaten, and the soldiers had to live on half a pound of tallow and three-quarters of a pound of salted hide each day. They were so weak that they could scarcely stand at their posts. One morning they said they would hold out two days longer, and then yield.

4. Help, however, was at hand. Towards sunset on the 28th of July, in the year 1689, the watchmen on the walls saw the white sails of three men-of-war coming up the river. You can imagine the joy of the people. The ships were laden with food for the starving townsfolk, and men for the defence of the place. With thankful hearts and tear-dimmed eyes the poor, hungry people watched the ships drawing nearer and nearer.

5. The leading ship was the *Mountjoy*. On she came, and crashed into the boom that had been made to bar the

LONDONDERRY AS IT IS TO-DAY.
(*Photo by Lawrence, Dublin.*)

way. It was broken by the shock, but the *Mountjoy* was forced back on to a mudbank, where she stuck, and remained helpless. Then the poor people on the walls felt their hearts sink within them, for they thought that their last hope had gone.

6. But no ! The second ship dashed at the broken part of the boom, and forced her way through it. Derry was saved ! By ten in the evening all the people in the town were eating their first good meal for one hundred and five long, weary days. All danger was past, and shortly afterwards the Irish army burned its camp and marched away.

7. At length, in October, William's army crossed the Irish Channel, in order to overcome James. Through the winter the troops of William and his father-in-law faced each other, but little fighting took place. In the spring, however, William began to march his men towards Dublin.

8. James was a poor sort of king, as you already know. He had done very little to strengthen his army, and very much to make the Irish dislike him. His soldiers were half-trained, and their wages were unpaid. His generals were quarrelling amongst themselves, and most of them thought their king a miserable fellow.

9. Now that William was drawing near, James took thirty thousand men—most of them French—and posted them on the right bank of the river Boyne, which William would have to cross in order to reach Dublin. So strongly placed were James's men that William's general advised his master not to fight a battle.

10. William, however, was determined to fight, and at once he put his troops in battle array. His army was a

THE BATTLE OF THE BOYNE.

(From the picture by Benjamin West, R.A. By permission of Messrs. Henry Graves and Co.)

very mixed one indeed. In it were Irish Protestants, Englishmen, Scotsmen, Frenchmen, Danes, and Dutchmen. The Danes were the first to attack. They were sent to capture a bridge crossing the Boyne.

11. They seized the bridge in the face of the enemy, and crossing it, made for a narrow pass four miles south of the river on the road to Dublin. If they had seized this pass the Irish would have been cut off. At once the commander of the French marched off to oppose the Danes, and the Irish were left alone to withstand William at the river.

12. William's troops waded across the Boyne, and charged up the bank. The Irish foot-soldiers fled without striking a blow, but the cavalry fought bravely, and fell back fighting hard to the last. James fled from the field early in the day, and the Irish army hurried helter-skelter through the narrow pass which had been held for them by the French.

13. William showed great coolness and bravery, while James was plainly a coward. Some of the Irish soldiers said, "Had the Dutchman been our commander, we should have won." As it was, they were badly beaten. By this time James had had quite enough of warfare. Leaving his men to shift for themselves, he once more withdrew to France.

14. There was still a good deal of fighting to be done before the Irish were crushed. Under a brave leader, named Sarsfield, they held Limerick for three months, and only laid down their arms when they were promised freedom to worship in their own way. Eleven thousand Irishmen were allowed to sail for France, where they joined the French army, and did some famous deeds.

15. I am sorry to say that faith was not kept with the Irish people. They were cruelly treated and harshly governed for the next hundred and fifty years. All sorts of base attempts were made to get them to change their religion, but most of them stood firmly by their faith.

35. GLENCOE.

1. Now I must tell you about a cruel deed which was done in a Scottish glen soon after the Irish were crushed. I told you in Lesson 33 that Viscount Dundee beat William's troops, and that his men went away to their homes after their leader had fallen. Though they were no longer in arms, some of the Highland chiefs would not acknowledge William as their king.

2. At last William said he would forgive all the chiefs who would swear to be faithful to him before January 1, 1692. Those who had not yielded by that day were to be severely punished. All the chiefs took the oath except MacIan, the chief of the Macdonalds, who lived in the valley of Glencoe.

3. He was an old and stubborn man, and he would not give in until the very last day. Then he set out through the deep snow to Fort-William, hoping to find a king's officer before whom he might swear the oath. Alas! he found that he had come to the wrong town. Not until January 6 was he able to take the oath.

4. Now, the Macdonalds had powerful and bitter enemies, and these men made William believe what was quite untrue

Glencoe.

(From the picture by J. B. M'Donald in the National Gallery of Scotland. By permission of the Royal Scottish Academy.)

VALLEY OF GLENCOE.

—namely, that MacIan had not taken the oath at all. They got the king to permit them to put an end to what they called "this set of thieves."

5. A regiment of soldiers was then sent to Glencoe. The soldiers came as friends, and they were treated as friends. They lived with the Macdonalds for a fortnight before they did their deadly work.

6. Then early one dark winter's morning they fell upon their hosts, and slew some forty of them—men, women, and children. Then they set fire to the houses and drove off the cattle, leaving those who had escaped the sword to perish of cold and hunger on the mountains.

7. This shocking deed is a black stain on William's memory. People have tried to make excuses for him, but

no excuses can take away the blame. He was disliked before this wicked deed was done ; afterwards, most of the Scottish people hated him.

8. I cannot stay to tell you much more about William's reign. His good wife died of smallpox in 1694, and William felt her loss keenly. "She had no fault," said he to his friends ; "you knew her well, but nobody but myself could know her goodness." After her death William reigned alone.

9. During most of his reign William carried on a war with the French king, Lewis the Fourteenth, who was bent on making himself master of Europe. After eight years of fighting Lewis made peace, but four years later war broke out again.

10. While his troops were getting ready to cross over to France, William died. He was thrown from his horse while out hunting. Though he was not badly hurt, he was too weak and ill to recover from the shock. When he died Lewis of France had got rid of his most powerful enemy.

36. THE GREAT DUKE OF MARLBOROUGH.

1. William and Mary had no children, so the next heir to the throne was Anne, the younger daughter of James. She was a good, pious woman, but her will was weak, and was always ruled by her favourites.

2. Strange to say, the reign of this simple, homely woman was full of stirring deeds. Great battles were fought and won, and Britain gained great glory abroad. Let me tell

you about the greatest man in her reign. His name was John Churchill, Duke of Marlborough.

3. Come with me to the market town of Woodstock, in Oxfordshire. Within a short distance of the main street there is a very grand palace, known as Blenheim Palace. It was a present from the British people to John Churchill, Duke of Marlborough.

4. Now, you will perhaps ask why the palace is known as Blenheim Palace, and why the people of these islands made such a noble present to the Duke of Marlborough. I will tell you.

5. John Churchill was the son of a Cavalier, who lost his lands when his royal master lost his head. The year after the king was beheaded, John Churchill the younger was born. He was a beautiful boy, and he grew into a very handsome man, with fine manners and a calm, unruffled temper.

6. He became an officer in the army at sixteen years of age, and proved himself a splendid soldier. He was bold and far-seeing, very cool in danger, and so strong that he could spend a whole day on horseback without being worn out.

7. Handsome and gifted as he was, he was neither an honest nor a loyal man. He was not faithful either to King James the Second or to William the Third. His wife was a clever and beautiful woman, and she became the bosom friend of Queen Anne, who gave many gifts and offices to her friend's husband. For a time he almost ruled the country.

8. I told you in the last lesson that Lewis the Fourteenth,

the King of France, had been for many years the most powerful king in all Europe. He was feared far and wide, and was almost the master of the continent. You will remember that William the Third strove against him all his life. Nevertheless, Lewis grew more and more powerful.

9. When Queen Anne came to the throne, several of the nations joined together against Lewis, and war broke out.

BLENHEIM PALACE.
(From photo by Mary Spencer Warren.)

The Duke of Marlborough was placed at the head of the British and Dutch armies, and he led them against the forces of Lewis.

10. I cannot tell you now the story of his many battles. He never laid siege to a fortress that he did not take, and he never fought a battle that he did not win. The greatest of all his battles was fought at a place called Blenheim, on the river Danube, in Bavaria. His foes were fifty-six

thousand strong, and they were posted on a range of low, wooded hills, behind a marshy stream.

11. Marlborough's men waded through the stream, and attacked the French line in the centre. His horse-soldiers charged the enemy again and again, the duke himself leading his men in the two last charges. The French line

JOHN CHURCHILL, DUKE OF MARLBOROUGH.
(*From the picture by J. Closterman in the National Portrait Gallery.*)

SARAH, DUCHESS OF MARLBOROUGH.
(*From the picture by Sir Godfrey Kneller in the National Portrait Gallery.*)

was broken, and Marlborough drove his foes towards the Danube, where they had the choice of yielding or drowning. Eleven thousand men laid down their arms, and fifteen thousand more were slain, drowned, or wounded.

12. "It was a famous victory." The French were driven out of Germany. There were, however, many more battles to be fought before they asked for peace and the war came

to an end. France had to give up to us a number of places beyond the seas, and all of these places, except one, still form part of the British Empire.

13. The British people rejoiced greatly when they heard of the victory. Parliament gave Marlborough a large sum of money with which to build a palace, and the queen gave him land near Woodstock. Now you understand why Blenheim Palace is so called.

14. Evil times came to Marlborough towards the end of his life. The queen was no longer friendly with his wife, and he was charged with taking bribes from those who supplied the army with bread. All his offices were taken from him, and he fell into disgrace.

15. Such was the end of one of the greatest of British generals. He was a man of wonderful gifts, and he did much for his country. He was, however, greedy and faithless, and could not be trusted. In the latter part of his life men thought only of his failings and forgot his virtues.

37. THE FATHER OF THE AMERICAN NATION.

1. Queen Anne had many children, but all of them died before she became queen. Parliament therefore passed an Act making Sophia, a granddaughter of James the First, heir to the throne. She died just before Queen Anne, and her son George became King of Great Britain and Ireland.

2. George the First was a German. He could not speak a word of English, and he never felt at home in this country. After the death of George the First his son reigned as

George the Second. He died in 1760, and was followed by George the Third, the first king since the time of the Stuarts who "gloried in the name of Britain."

3. Look at this little map. It shows you our empire in North America during the early part of George the Third's reign. You see that it then consisted of Canada and all the lands lying between the river Mississippi and the Atlantic Ocean as far south as the Gulf of Mexico.

4. Canada, as you know, had been founded by the French, and won from them by Wolfe. Along the Atlantic seaboard south of Canada the British had settled in thirteen colonies. Before George the Third died we had lost the whole of these colonies. Let me tell you how it happened.

NORTH AMERICA IN 1763.

British. *French.*

5. The long war with France and Spain had cost much money, and the people at home were heavily taxed. One of George's ministers thought that the colonies ought to pay something towards the cost of the war. He did not ask the colonies if they would agree to be taxed, but said, "For the future you must put a stamp on all legal papers, and the money which you pay for these stamps will go to the British Government."

6. Now, these colonies were founded by men who had left their native land because James the First and Charles the First tried to take away their freedom from them. Their sons and daughters had the spirit of John Hampden

in them; and though the tax was a small one, they stood out boldly against it.

7. "If we are to pay taxes," they said, "we must have members in the British House of Commons, so that we may have a voice in making the laws, and in saying how the money shall be spent."

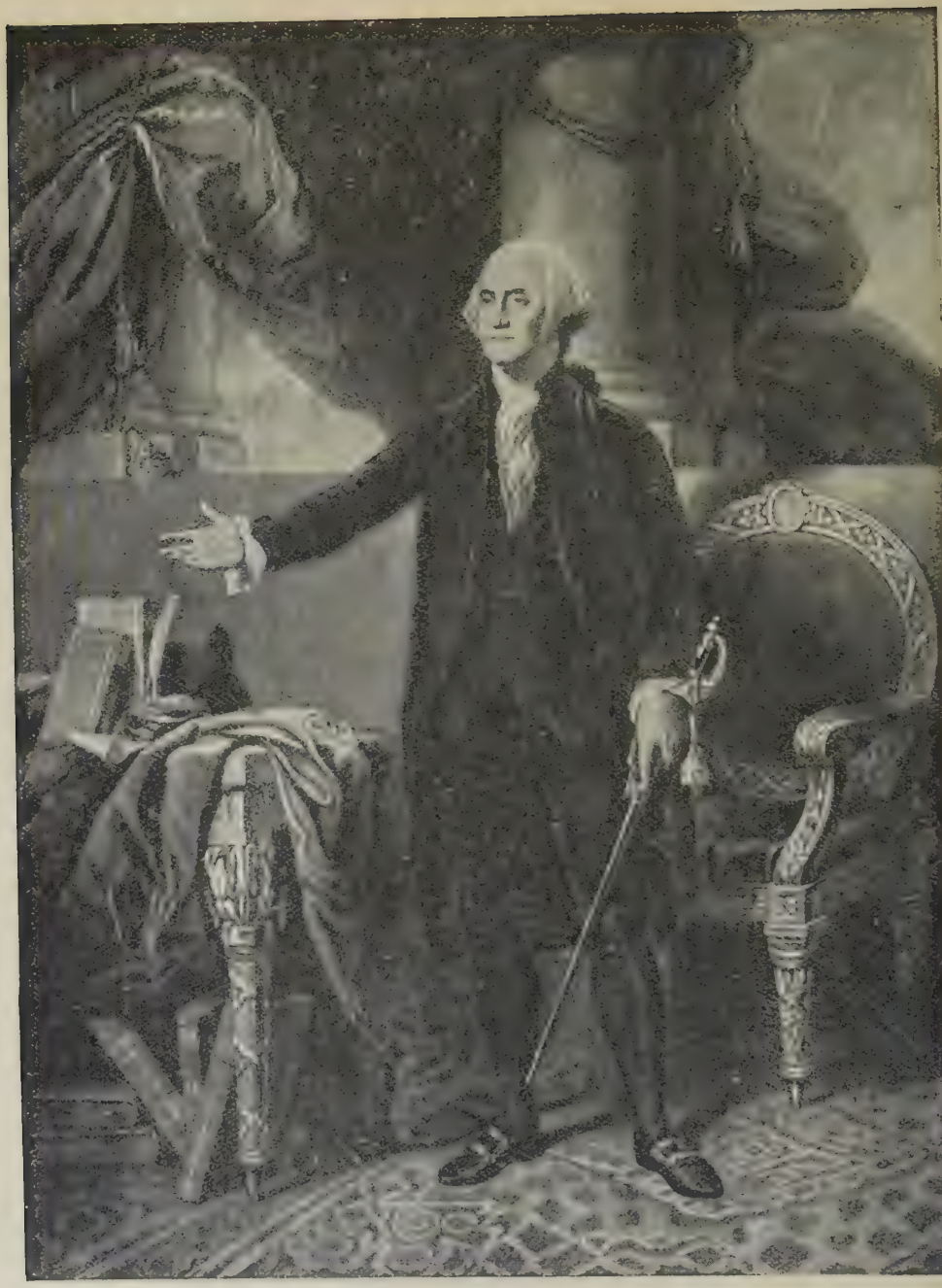
8. The Americans were quite right in this, and there were men in this country who took their part. Very wisely, the tax was taken off; but, strange to say, King George's ministers some years later tried to put even larger taxes on all the tea, glass, paper, and painter's colours that were sent to America.

9. This made the Americans very angry indeed. When the ships carrying the taxed tea came into Boston Harbour, a party of young men dressed as Indians boarded the ships and threw the tea overboard.

10. The home government having done one foolish thing, now did another. It punished the people of Boston for the riot, and even took away the Parliament of the colony. This was more than flesh and blood could stand, and the Americans began to prepare for war.

11. King George was very stubborn and self-willed. He called the Americans "rebels," and sent soldiers across the sea to fight them. "We will soon bring them to their senses," he said. Soon twenty thousand Americans were in arms.

12. They were led by a young soldier, named George Washington. He was one of the best and most unselfish men who ever lived. When the war broke out he was a country gentleman, busily engaged in growing wheat and



GEORGE WASHINGTON.

(*From the picture by G. Stuart, in the possession of the Earl of Rosebery.*)

tobacco. He knew something about war, for he had served as an officer against the French.

13. He was a strong, quiet man of great common sense, and the Americans were very wise in choosing him as their commander-in-chief. His soldiers were untrained and badly armed; but he was so cheerful, so hard-working, so upright, and so quick to seize every opportunity, that he did wonders with his men.

14. The Americans were beaten in the first important battle of the war, and then people on both sides of the Atlantic tried to bring about peace. The king, however, was still stubborn, and the Americans now saw that they must fight to a finish. In the year 1776 they cut themselves adrift from Great Britain, and formed a government of their own. Thus began the United States of America.

15. After the war had been going on for six years, Washington forced the British general and all his men to surrender. Another general was sent out, but the same thing happened to him. He too was caught in a trap, and had to lay down his arms. Two years later a treaty was signed, which brought the war to an end. By this treaty Great Britain agreed to recognize the United States as a separate nation.

16. Washington's work was now done, and he went back to his farm and lived his old, simple life. Afterwards he became the first President of the United States. He gave up his post when he was sixty-five years of age, and died four years later. He was the greatest of all Americans, "first in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his fellow-countrymen."

THE BATTLE OF BUNKER HILL (THE FIRST BATTLE OF THE AMERICAN WAR.)
(From an engraving after John Trumbull.)

38. LORD CHATHAM.

1. I told you in the last lesson that there were some men in England who thought that the Americans were right in not allowing themselves to be taxed by the British Government. The chief man to take the part of the Americans on this side of the Atlantic was William Pitt, who afterwards became Earl of Chatham.

2. He was a very proud, haughty man, but he was very able, upright, and honest. He was the best speaker of his time. When he was forty-eight years of age, a great war broke out with the French. It was fought in Europe and in all other parts of the world where the British and French were neighbours.

3. At first the war went against the British, and they almost lost hope. Then Pitt came forward and said, "I know that I can save the nation, and that no one else can." This seems to be a very boastful speech, but the boast proved true, for Pitt not only saved the nation, but made it more powerful than it had ever been before.

4. In 1757 he became the real head of the government. He raised great sums of money for the war, and he chose such splendid generals that Britain overcame the French everywhere. Canada was won, India was won, and when George the Second died, nearly all the foreign lands of France were in the hands of the British.

5. George the Third did not like Pitt, and he drove him from office. Five years later Pitt became Earl of Chatham, and took his seat in the House of Lords. It was here that he stood up for the Americans, and pleaded for peace with them.

DEATH OF CHATHAM.

(From the picture by J. S. Copley, R.A.)

6. "You cannot conquer America," he said. "The Americans are our own flesh and blood. If I were an American as I am an Englishman, I would never lay down my arms—never, never, never!"

7. As you already know, the king paid no heed to Chatham's words, but was bent on punishing the "rebels." Again and again Chatham showed the wickedness and folly of trying to crush the Americans. Had he been in power there would have been no war, and perhaps the Union Jack would be flying above the great United States of America to-day.

8. At last the French began to help the Americans. They owed us a bitter grudge, and they thought that they could best injure us by helping our kinsmen to fight us. Now, when the French joined with the Americans, Britain found herself very hard pressed.

9. Her army was fighting in America, and she had no troops to hold the foreign places which she had won. Spain now joined France, and shortly afterwards Holland took up arms against us.

10. Britain was in sore straits, and Parliament took fright. It wanted to make peace on almost any terms. Old King George, however, would not listen to this. He said that he would face the whole world and never yield an inch.

11. Chatham was very weak and ill, but he got out of bed and went to the House of Lords, where he made a grand and moving speech. His voice was low and feeble, but his words were full of passion. "Make peace with your own kith and kin," said he, "and then turn all your forces against the foreign foe."

THE OVERTHROW OF NAPOLEON (EVENING OF WATERLOO).

12. So powerfully did he speak that his fellow-peers agreed with him. The great strain of speaking, however, had so worn out his poor, feeble body that, when he rose a second time, he fell back fainting into the arms of his friends. He was carried home, and he died a few days later.

13. The whole country mourned for him. He was buried in great state in Westminster Abbey, where his statue now stands. If you go to see it, remember that, though he did much to win great battles and broad lands across the sea, he was doing the noblest deed of his life when he stood up bravely for those who had right on their side.

39. THE BARBER WHO BECAME A KNIGHT.

1. Two years after Chatham died, his son, William Pitt, entered Parliament. He was a very able man, and became famous almost at once. At twenty-four years of age he was Prime Minister—the youngest Prime Minister our country has ever known. He soon became master of Parliament, and for nearly all his life he held the reins of power.

2. I told you in Book II. about Napoleon, the "terror of Europe." Britain had to fight him almost single-handed. Pitt's life-work was to overcome Napoleon. He helped the nations of Europe with men and money; and meanwhile Nelson, our greatest sailor, was fighting his great sea-fights. In the last of them Nelson destroyed the fleets of France and Spain.

3. He died in the moment of victory, and one year

later, William Pitt, worn out with worry and hard work, followed him to the grave. Pitt did not live to see Napoleon overthrown. The Emperor of the French was not finally beaten until nine years after Pitt's death.

4. You have read a great deal about war in these pages. Let me now tell you about some of the far greater victories of peace. While the long war with Napoleon was going on, Britain was becoming a manufacturing country.

5. After Napoleon was beaten, our soldiers never fired a shot in anger for forty years. During this time of peace our manufactures and our trade became so great that England was the workshop of the world.

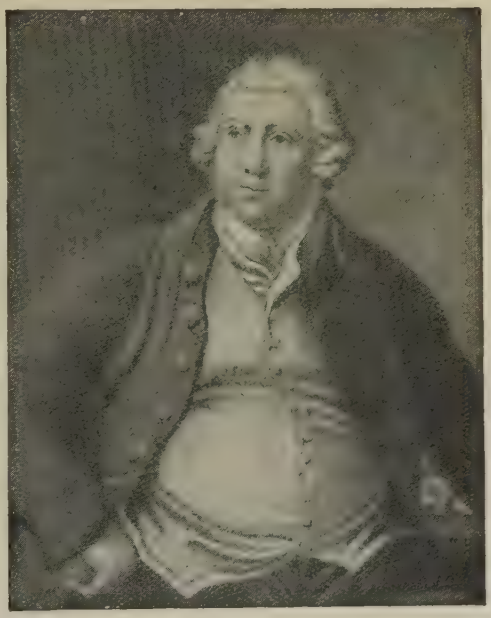
6. If you visit the towns of Lancashire, you will see hundreds of huge, bare buildings, in which thousands of men and women spin and weave cotton for the use of the whole world. No such buildings could have been found in England at the time when Canada was won. All the work was then done by the people in their own homes.

7. They used to spin the cotton on spinning-machines worked by the hand or the foot, and weave it on other machines worked in the same way. At first they could only spin one thread at a time. Afterwards a man invented a spinning "jenny," which could spin a large number of threads at the same time.

8. Then another man improved this machine very much, and set it working in a factory by means of water-power. His spinning-machine could spin as much cotton in one hour as eighty or a hundred men could do in the same time. This made cotton goods very cheap, and enabled us to sell

them at a great profit in all parts of the world. Let me tell you about the man who brought about this striking change.

9. His name was Richard Arkwright. He was the son of a very poor man. So poor was Richard's father that he could not afford to send his children to school. Richard had to teach himself how to read and write.



RICHARD ARKWRIGHT.
(*From the portrait by Joseph Wright, R.A.*)

10. When he grew up he became a barber. His shop was in a cellar, and as few people were attracted to it, he became poorer and poorer. At last he thought of a plan to get customers. Other barbers charged twopence for a shave; he would charge a penny.

11. So he wrote out a sign, and placed it above the door—"Come to the Underground Barber. He shaves for a Penny." Then people began to come to his shop, and he made a good living. The other barbers were now forced to shave for a penny too, and Richard saw that he was no better off than before. He would not be beaten, however, so now he put up another sign—"Come to the Underground Barber. He shaves for a Halfpenny." This shows you the kind of man Arkwright was.

12. In the town of Preston, where he lived, most of the

Captain Cook taking Possession of New South Wales in the Name of Britain. Botany Bay, 1770

(From the painting by T. A. Gilfillan.)

people were engaged in spinning cotton. Arkwright was interested in what was going on about him. With the help of a watchmaker, he made an improved spinning-frame.

13. Now, at this time working people were doing their utmost to prevent the use of machines like Arkwright's, because they thought that such machines would take away their work from them. When Arkwright set up his spinning-machine in a school-house, they broke into the place and smashed the machine, on which he had expended so much thought and labour.

14. Again and again they destroyed his work, but he would not be beaten. At last he opened a spinning-mill near Hockley, and later on at Cromford, in Derbyshire. The river that flowed by his mill turned hundreds of spindles and many weaving machines, and his cotton cloth soon became famous for its cheapness and good quality. He grew very rich, and the king made him a knight.

15. Other men invented still better machines, and James Watt, "the boy who played with the kettle," made steam-engines, which drove them faster and better than water-power could do. In this way we became the chief cotton, woollen, and linen manufacturers of the world.

16. About this time, too, we learned how to smelt iron with coal, and soon we began to be great manufacturers of iron and steel. Canals were made, so that goods could be carried cheaply from one part of the country to another, and our roads were much improved.

17. Our ships began to sail to all parts of the world, laden with our manufactured goods, and in this way Britain rose to be the busiest and richest nation of the world.

40. CAPTAIN COOK.

1. I told you in Book II. how India, Canada, and South Africa were won for us. Now let us learn how Australia and New Zealand—the British Empire of the South—came into our hands. If you look for Australia and New Zealand on a globe, you will find them on the other side of the world from Britain.

2. Eleven years before George the First died, a boy, named James Cook, was born at the village of Marton, in North Yorkshire. His father was a farm labourer, and young James was set to work at an early age scaring crows. He got some education at the village school, and when twelve years old he went to sea as a cabin-boy.

3. When the war with France broke out, Cook was mate of a vessel lying in the Thames. In those days, when seamen were needed for the navy, parties of sailors, called pressgangs, used to pounce upon likely men, and carry them off to sea. Rather than fall into their hands, Cook went on board one of the king's ships and offered himself as an able seaman.

4. Cook proved a splendid sailor, and he soon gained the favour of his captain. When he was thirty-one years of age he was made an officer ; and such a good officer did he prove to be, that he was soon placed in command of a small vessel, in which he did good work.

5. Now, about this time some learned men in London wished to have a ship sent to the Pacific Ocean to observe the passing of the shadow of the planet Venus across the face of the sun. Cook was chosen to command this ship, and in 1768 he sailed for the South Seas.

6. On his way home he touched at New Zealand, which had been discovered more than one hundred and twenty years before by a Dutch sailor. Cook landed on what is now called the North Island. He carved the name of his ship upon a tree, and claimed the land for King George the Third. Then he sailed round the island, and made a map of it.

7. In the next year he hoisted the Union Jack on the South Island. He examined the country carefully, and met the natives, who are called Maoris. They are still to be found in New Zealand. Though they were then savages, they were a very good class of savages.

8. Cook then sailed farther westward, and came to the great island continent of Australia, which was then known as New Holland. He coasted along the eastern shores, and here, too, he planted the British flag. He called the country New South Wales.

9. In June 1771 he returned to England, after having been absent for three years. He had done such good work, and had given Britain such great new lands, that he was sent with two ships to explore still further in the southern seas.

10. Twice in the course of this voyage he visited New Zealand; and when he returned to England he was made a captain, and once more sent on a voyage of discovery. This was his last voyage. In 1779 he landed on the Sandwich Islands, and was well received by the natives. Some of them, however, stole his ship's boat, and Cook went ashore to get it back again.

11. The natives gathered on the beach, and drove the

sailors back to their boats. Cook was left alone on the shore, and the natives fell on him and killed him. Such was the sad end of this great sailor. He was the real father of the Australian colonies.

12. Eight years after Cook's death the government sent out a party of prisoners and soldiers to settle in Australia. They had to suffer great hardships, and more than once they were in danger of starving. Little by little, however, their lot improved. Then free settlers were sent out, and every year sheep farms and wheat fields grew in number. Gold was discovered in 1851, and then Australia quickly became rich and great.

13. Until sixty years after Cook's death no white man made his home in New Zealand. At first the settlers had a great deal of trouble with the natives, who were not thoroughly overcome until the year 1869. Since then, New Zealand has never looked back, and is now one of the richest and happiest lands in which white men dwell.

41. THE SLAVES' FRIEND.

1. George the Fourth was called by his flatterers the "First Gentleman of Europe." He did not deserve the title, for he was a bad son, a bad husband, and a heartless father. He reigned for ten years, and when he died his sailor brother, William the Fourth, followed him on the throne.

2. William the Fourth reigned only seven years, but during that time many wrongs were righted, and the con-

dition of the people was improved. For the first time many large towns had members of Parliament, and the right of voting was given to a greater number of people. The noblest deed which was done in William's reign, however, was the freeing of the negro slaves. Let me tell you how it came about.

3. When the European nations began to make settlements in the hot parts of the earth, they found that white men could not work in the cotton, sugar, and tobacco fields because of the heat. They therefore began to steal negroes from their homes in Africa, and carry them across the seas to sell them as slaves to the planters.

4. The slaves were packed into the holds of ships like herrings in a barrel. Many died on the voyage, and those who lived were put up for sale as though they were cattle. They were branded with the name of their owner, and often had to work very hard. Sometimes they were flogged, and otherwise cruelly treated.

5. Some of the slave-owners were kind to their slaves, but even these men saw nothing wrong in slavery. In our day we cannot think of slavery without horror, but in the times of which we are speaking the merchants of Bristol and Liverpool and other places felt no shame whatever in buying and selling slaves.

6. Now, just about the time when the Americans threw off the British yoke, a good man, named Thomas Clarkson, began to plead the cause of the slaves. He was joined by other earnest men, such as the father of the great writer Lord Macaulay, and, above all, by William Wilberforce, member of Parliament for Hull.

7. Wilberforce was one of the noblest men who ever

lived. He was so simple, so kindly, and so charming in his manner that everybody loved him. William Pitt was his friend, and he urged him to take up the cause of the slaves. At last Wilberforce agreed to give all his time and talents to this noble work.

8. He had set himself a very difficult task. The planters said they would be ruined if they could no longer force their black people to work. They said, too, that they had bought the slaves, and that no one had a right to take away their property without paying them for their loss.

STATUE OF WILBERFORCE IN WESTMINSTER ABBEY.

9. The planters did everything in their power to oppose Wilberforce, but he did not lose heart. He made many fine speeches both in Parliament and throughout the country, and gradually he and his friends made the nation understand the wickedness of slavery. At last, in the year 1807, the government stopped the trade in slaves. Slavery still remained, but the law now punished any Briton who bought or sold slaves.

10. Wilberforce was not yet satisfied. He meant to continue his work until there was not a single slave in any British land beyond the seas. Before this happened,

however, he became very ill, and had to leave Parliament.

11. In July 1833 he was at death's door, but his last moments were cheered by the news that the House of Commons had at last agreed to do away with slavery altogether. He died shortly afterwards, with the proud knowledge that his great work was done.

12. In the year 1834 most of the slaves were set free. The British people voted twenty million pounds to pay the planters for the loss of their slaves, and thus they set an example to the rest of the world. Thanks to Wilberforce, Britain thus did the noblest act in all her history, and now there is not a single slave under the British flag.

42. "THE CHILDREN'S FRIEND."

1. The negroes in the British lands beyond the sea were now free, but there were slaves at home still in bondage. They were the white boys and girls in the great factories of North England. Their masters overworked them and underfed them, and their condition was sad indeed. Let me tell you about a great and good man who worked hard to set them free.

2. I have already told you about the inventions which caused such a great change in the work of the British people. You know that machines were made and driven by water-power, and afterwards by steam. Then arose great factories, and England became the chief manufacturing country of the world.

3. In the time of William the Fourth the factories were chiefly worked by women and children. Wagon-loads of boys and girls were brought from the workhouses to the factories of Lancashire and Yorkshire, and were handed over to the mill-masters.

4. Many of the children were only seven, or even six, years of age, and sometimes they had to work as long as thirteen or fourteen hours every day. Work went on night and day, one gang being turned out of bed to make room for the other gang. The poor children were often cruelly treated, and they grew up in the bad air of the mills to be weak, sickly men and women. They had little or no schooling, and they were not much better than heathens.

5. Women and children also worked in the coal pits. There they had to crawl on their hands and knees, and drag little wagons filled with coal after them by a chain fastened to their waists. Children of six were sometimes kept working in this way from fourteen to sixteen hours a day. Sometimes these poor women and children never came out of the pit for weeks together.

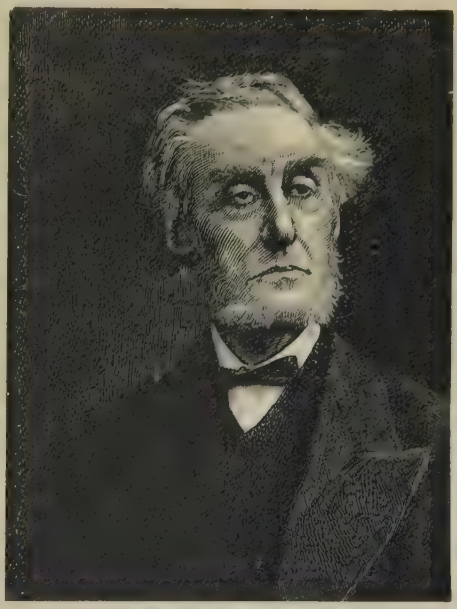
6. Good men were shocked at this state of things, and they tried hard to make the lot of the women and children better. A great poetess, named Elizabeth Browning, was stirred to the heart by their sufferings, and wrote a wonderful poem called "The Cry of the Children." People read it and wept over it, and at last Parliament passed a number of laws which improved matters a great deal.

7. The good work went on, and now the workers in the factories are well treated and well paid. Until recently children were allowed to work "half-time," provided they

attended school "half-time;" but under the Education Act of 1918 this too came to an end.

8. One of the leading men in bringing about these changes was Lord Shaftesbury, who well deserves the title of "The Children's Friend." Let me tell you what he did for the little chimney-sweeps. In his time boys were made to climb the insides of chimneys, and sweep them out.

9. Sometimes the masters made the boys go up chimneys which had not cooled, and then the poor little fellows were burned. Frequently they stuck fast in the chimneys, and were choked by the soot. Lord Shaftesbury never rested until Parliament passed a law to stop sending boys up chimneys. When this was done, men soon found out a new and better way of sweeping them.



LORD SHAFTESBURY.

10. When William the Fourth died, and his niece, good Queen Victoria, came to the throne, few of the poor people knew how to read and write. There were not many schools, and the fees then charged were more than poor parents could pay. Now every child in the land can go to a good school and be well taught for nothing.

11. Lord Shaftesbury longed to have poor people taught.

He therefore helped in starting what are known as Ragged Schools. The first ragged school was kept by a Portsmouth cobbler, named John Pounds. He used to take in the ragged children who lived near him, and teach them while he worked.

12. Many such ragged schools were opened, and children who would otherwise have grown up knowing nothing were taught to read and write. Slowly the government began to take up the work, and now there are good free schools for all, and the law compels every child to be educated.

We have now come to the end of our history lessons for the year. I have told you of many of the men and women who helped to make history in past times. You must not suppose that only kings, and nobles, and generals, and members of Parliament make history. Every person in the land, rich or poor, high or low, helps to make it. Work-people in the mills and factories, clerks in their offices, tradesmen in their shops, boys and girls in school, all are helping to make history. If the history of our land in the years to come is to be the story of how men and women grew better and wiser and happier, you must see to it that you play your part properly by doing your work in school thoroughly well, and by preparing yourself for that greater work which awaits you when you go out into the world to earn your living.

Poetry for Recitation.

1. SIR LANCELOT DU LAKE.

[*In Book II. you read about King Arthur and his Knights of the Round Table. He is said to have been the great Christian hero of the Britons who led them to victory in their struggles against the English. About forty years after the departure of the Romans the English began to settle in Kent, and by the year* 600 A.D. *the Britons were completely overcome by them, and Britannia became England. Sir Lancelot du Lake, the hero of the following ballad, was the most famous of the Knights of the Round Table.*]

1. When Arthur first in court began,
   And was approved king,
   By force of arms great victories won
   And conquest home did bring.

2. Then into England straight he came
   With fifty good and able
   Knights, that resorted unto him,
   And were of his Round Table:

3. And he had jousts and tournaments,
   Whereto were many prest,
   Wherein some knights did far excel
   And eke surmount the rest.

4. But one Sir Lancelot du Lake,
   Who was approved well,
   He for his deeds and feats of arms
   All others did excel.

5. When he had rested him a while,
In play, and game, and sport,
He said he would go prove himself
In some adventurous sort.

6. He armed rode in a forest wide,
And met a damsel fair,
Who told him of adventures great,
Whereto he gave great ear.

7. "Such would I find," quoth Lancelot;
"For that cause came I hither."
"Thou seem'st," quoth she, "a knight full good,
And I will bring thee thither.

8. "Whereas a mighty knight doth dwell,
That now is of great fame;
Therefore tell me what wight thou art,
And what may be thy name."

9. "My name is Lancelot du Lake."
Quoth she, "It likes me than.
Here dwells a knight who never was
Yet matched with any man:

10. "Who has in prison threescore knights
And four, that he did wound;
Knights of King Arthur's court they be,
And of his Table Round."

11. She brought him to a river side,
And also to a tree,

Whereon a copper bason hung,
And many shields to see.

12. He struck so hard the bason broke;
And Tarquin soon he spied,
Who drove a horse before him fast,
Whereon a knight lay tied.

13. "Sir Knight," then said Sir Lancelot,
"Bring me that horse-load hither,
And lay him down, and let him rest;
We'll try our force together:

14. "For, as I understand, thou hast,
So far as thou art able,
Done great despite and shame unto
The Knights of the Round Table."

15. "If thou be of the Table Round,"
Quoth Tarquin speedily,
"Both thee and all thy fellowship
I utterly defy."

16. "That's overmuch," quoth Lancelot though;
"Defend thee by-and-by."
They set their spears unto their steeds,
And each at other fly.

17. They couched their spears (their horses ran,
As though there had been thunder),
And struck them each immidst* their shields,
Wherewith they broke in sunder.

* In the middle of.

18. Their horses' backs brake under them;
The knights were both astound.
To avoid their horses they made haste,
And light upon the ground.

19. They took them to their shields full fast,
Their swords they drew out than;
With mighty strokes most eagerly
Each at the other ran.

20. They buckled then together so,
Like unto wild boars rashing;
And with their swords and shields they ran
At one another slashing.

21. The ground besprinkled was with blood:
Tarquin began to yield,
For he gave back for weariness,
And low did bear his shield.

22. This soon Sir Lancelot espied;
He leapt upon him then,
He pulled him down upon his knee,
And rushing off his helm,

23. Forthwith he struck his neck in two;
And, when he had so done,
From prison threescore knights and four
Delivered every one.

Old Ballad: PERCY'S "*Reliques.*"

2. THE MOTHER'S BOOK.

[*An old story tells us that Alfred's mother offered a book to the one of her sons who first could read it. The following verses tell the story.*]

1. "Come here, my boys," the lady said,
Seated in royal chair.
Four lads came, each with flaxen head,
And features fresh and fair.

2. "See here, my children, come and look!
See tales of many a saint,
Fair written in this beauteous book,
All decked with pictures quaint.

3. "The boy who first shall read the scroll
Unaided and alone,
And all its precious stores unroll,
Shall have it for his own."

4. Up spake the eldest of the four:
"I am the kingdom's heir;
Of monkish pen or scholar's lore
Nought would I know or care."

5. The second brother then spake out:
"I have my sword and bow.
How should it serve in battle shout
That learning I should know?"

6. And answered gentle Ethelred:
"I love a holy song;
But letters weary sore mine head,
Study is all too long!"

7. Resolve was on young Alfred's face;
Eager he raised his head,
Like a brave courser in the race,
And "That I will!" he said.

8. Soon at the lady's side he stood;
And every line and verse,
Each holy life and maxim good,
Did he throughout rehearse.

9. And thus the book was twice his own,
Mastered its precious store;
And in the camp and on the throne
He valued still its lore!

10. Yet still a better thing he earned,
And we may gain it too;
This was what "England's Darling" learned—
To make "I will!" "I do!"

C. M. YONGE.

3. A LEGEND OF ATHELNEY.

[*In the year 878 the Danes seized London and Winchester, and several times defeated Alfred with heavy loss. He was forced to seek shelter in the marshes of Athelney in Somersetshire. An old story tells us that the following incident happened to him while he was in hiding.*]

1. Sad the king, and sick and weary,
Reft of all that king may wield,
Seeking, 'midst the marshes dreary,
Refuge from the stricken field.
Cold the wind, the sedges quiver,
Moaning by the lonely river.

2. Crownless, homeless, hot-foot flying,
Here he comes in piteous plight—
Overhead, the curlews crying,
Wail the doom of Alfred's might.
Dark the day, the lowering sky
Shows no silver gleam on high.

3. Scattered are his stalwart yeomen;
Danish Guthrum holds his halls;
Loud the shouts of boasting foemen
Echo round his palace walls:
"Ours," they cry, "these meads and rills,
English bones bleach on the hills!"

4. Racked and worn with painful striving,
All alone in neatherd's shed,
Ever planning and contriving,
Alfred bows his aching head;
While afar his hungry train
Sweep the barren mere in vain.

5. Lo! he hears a sudden crying,—
"Give me food and drink, I pray!"
Straightway to the threshold hieing,
There he sees a beggar gray,
Old and tattered, weak with age,
Shivering in the winter's rage.

6. Saith the king: "Though lean my larder—
Stoup of wine and loaf of bread,
These be all—yet fate is harder
Unto thy poor hoary head.

Half of all I have is thine—
Half the bread and half the wine."

7. Thus, his scanty bounty pressing
On his feeble, fainting guest,
Alfred felt a fount of blessing
Swell within his tortured breast.
Cheered, the beggar wends his way,
With the dying gleams of day.

8. Darkness fell, and Alfred slumbered,
Till a voice rang in his mind:
"Thou art kingly, thou art numbered
With the pitiful and kind.
Rise! thy henchmen wait thy call;
Thou shalt break the tyrant's thrall."

9. Alfred woke: in battle gory
Fiercely strove, and crushed the Dane;
Lived and died that England's story
Might its peerless fame attain.
Years a thousand now have fled,
Alfred's spirit is not dead!

EDWARD SHIRLEY.

4. SIR HUMPHREY GILBERT.

[*See Lesson 26.*]

1. Southward with fleet of ice
Sailed the corsair* Death;
Wild and fast blew the blast,
And the east wind was his breath.

* Pirate.

2. His lordly ships of ice
Glistened in the sun;
On each side, like pennons wide,
Flashing crystal streamlets run.

3. His sails of white sea-mist
Dripped with a silver rain;
But where he passed there were cast
Leaden shadows o'er the main.

4. Eastward from Campobello*
Sir Humphrey Gilbert sailed;
Three days or more seaward he bore,
Then, alas! the land-wind failed.

5. Alas! the land-wind failed,
And ice-cold grew the night;
And never more, on sea or shore,
Should Sir Humphrey see the light.

6. He sat upon the deck,
The Book† was in his hand;
"Do not fear! heaven is as near,"
He said, "by water as by land!"

7. In the first watch of the night,
Without a signal's sound,
Out of the sea, mysteriously,
The fleet of Death rose all around.

* Island of New Brunswick, Canada, in the Bay of Fundy.
† The Bible.

8. The moon and the evening star
Were hanging in the shrouds;
Every mast, as it passed,
Seemed to rake the passing clouds.

9. They grappled with their prize,
At midnight black and cold.
As of a rock was the shock;
Heavily the ground-swell rolled.

10. Southward, through day and dark,
They drift in close embrace,
With mist and rain, to the Spanish main;*
Yet there seems no change of place.

11. Southward, for ever southward,
They drift through dark and day;
And like a dream in the Gulf Stream
Sinking, vanish all away.

HENRY WADSWORTH LONGFELLOW.

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5. SIR PHILIP SIDNEY.

[*Sir Philip Sidney, soldier, statesman, hero, and poet, was one of the most gallant of the gallant gentlemen of Queen Elizabeth's day. He was born in 1554, and died as indicated in the following verses at the early age of thirty-two.*]

1. Heard ye of Sidney—Sir Philip Sidney?
Bold as a lion and sweet as a maid,
Soldier and poet—do ye not know it?
Glorious alike with the pen and the blade.

* The old name for the coast of South America from the mouth of the Orinoco to the Isthmus of Darien.

2. Heard ye of Sidney—Sir Philip Sidney?
Prince of all knights at the court of Queen Bess;
Pure, tender, and strong, his whole life a song,
Pattern and mirror of rare manliness.

3. Heard ye of Sidney—Sir Philip Sidney?
Men from afar bade him sit on a throne:
"Rule ye fair Poland." "Nay," said he; "for no land
Can reave me from this land, from England, my own."

4. Heard ye of Sidney—Sir Philip Sidney?
'Midst Zutphen's* red carnage sore wounded he lay;
While panting for breath, in the fever of death,
Water they brought him his thirst to allay.

5. Heard ye of Sidney—Sir Philip Sidney?
The goblet of blessing he fain would have quaffed;
But a soldier he spies, with agonized eyes,
Yearning to slake his parched lips with the draught.

6. Heard ye of Sidney—Sir Philip Sidney?
Gracious in life, and in death how benign!
Yea, dying he said, "Take it yonder instead.
Thy need, O my comrade, is greater than mine."

7. I've told ye of Sidney—Sir Philip Sidney—
Foe to all baseness, dishonour, and greed.
O child of his race, strive ye for the grace
To imitate Sidney in thought, word, and deed.

EDWARD SHIRLEY.

* Town in south-west of Holland. Near to it the skirmish was fought (1586) in which Sidney received his death-wound from a Spanish bullet.

6. THE BATTLE OF AGINCOURT.

[*This famous battle was fought between the French and English on October 25, 1415, near the village of Agincourt, in the middle of the French department Pas de Calais. More than ten thousand Frenchmen were slain. The victory was chiefly due to the English archers.*]

1. Fair stood the wind for France
When we our sails advance,
Nor now to prove our chance
Longer will tarry;
But putting to the main,
At Kaux, the mouth of Seine,
With all his martial train,
Landed King Harry.

2. And taking many a fort,
Furnished in warlike sort,
Marched towards Agincourt
In happy hour;
Skirmishing day by day
With those that stopped his way,
Where the French gen'ral lay
With all his power.

3. Which in his height of pride,
King Henry to deride,
His ransom to provide
To the king sending;
Which he neglects the while,
As from a nation vile,
Yet with an angry smile,
Their fall portending.

4. And turning to his men,
Quoth our brave Henry then,
"Though they to one be ten,
Be not amazed.
Yet have we well begun;
Battles so bravely won
Have ever to the sun
By fame been raised.

5. And for myself," quoth he,
"This my full rest shall be:
England ne'er mourn for me,
Nor more esteem me.
Victor I will remain,
Or on this earth lie slain;
Never shall she sustain
Loss to redeem me.

6. Poitiers* and Cressy† tell,
When most their pride did swell,
Under our swords they fell;
No less our skill is,
Than when our grandsire great,
Claiming the regal seat,
By many a warlike feat
Lopped the French lilies."‡

7. They now to fight are gone;
Armour on armour shone,

* September 19, 1356. † August 26, 1346.
‡ The emblem of the Kings of France was a blue shield powdered over with lilies.

Drum now to drum did groan,
To hear was wonder.
That with cries they make
The very earth did shake;
Trumpet to trumpet spake,
Thunder to thunder.

8. Well it thy age became,
O noble Erpingham,*
Which did the signal aim
To our hid forces;
When from a meadow by,
Like a storm suddenly,
The English archery
Stuck the French horses.

9. With Spanish yew so strong,
Arrows a cloth-yard long,
That like to serpents stung,
Piercing the weather;
None from his fellow starts,
But playing manly parts,
And like true English hearts,
Stuck close together.

10. When down their bows they threw,
And forth their bilbows† drew,
And on the French they flew,
Not one was tardy;

* Sir Thomas Erpingham (1357–1428) commanded the archers at Agincourt.
† Swords of a specially good steel, so called because they were first made at Bilbao in Spain.

Arms were from shoulders sent,
Scalps to the teeth were rent,
Down the French peasants went—
Our men were hardy.

11. Upon St. Crispin's* day
Fought was this noble fray,
Which fame did not delay
To England to carry;
Oh, when shall Englishmen
With such acts fill a pen,
Or England breed again
Such a King Harry?

MICHAEL DRAYTON.

7. THE BATTLE OF TRAFALGAR.

[*Of all the sea-fights won by Nelson, the Battle of Trafalgar was the greatest. The French and Spanish fleets were trying to reach the English Channel, in order to guard Napoleon's flat-bottomed boats when carrying the French army across the strait to invade England. Nelson met them off Cape Trafalgar, on the coast of Spain, and totally defeated them, receiving his death-wound in the action* (*1805*).]

1. The Spanish flag, all red and gold,
Flies out in Cadiz Bay;
King George's ships are off the coast,
Close watching night and day.
"Come forth, Gravina!† Villeneuve!‡
Before the British might;
St. George for Merry England, lads,
And God defend the right!"

* October 25th. † The Spanish admiral. His flagship was the *Trinidad.*
‡ The French admiral. His flagship was the *Bucentaur.*

2. Come forth, O Spanish red and gold!
Forth, French blue, red, and white!
Behold the British hearts of oak
With Red Cross banner bright!
Sail out, ye stately men-of-war,
Ye gallant thirty-three,
And carry nigh three thousand guns
Out to the open sea!

3. The French and Spanish men-of-war
Sail out of Cadiz Bay—
The *Trinidad*, the *Bucentaur*,
That bright October day—
All three-and-thirty stately ships,
Black castles on the main:
Crowd, crowd all sail, King George's fleet—
Shall they go back again?

4. Beneath the bright October skies
Away the white sails go,
To where Gibraltar's lion bides,
Close watching friend and foe.
But, lo! St. George's ensign floats,
Borne on the western breeze.
A chase! a chase! Turn, Spain and France,
And face the northern seas!

5. Tack, Villeneuve! Gravina, tack!
Run back to Cadiz Bay!
The great black ships plough through the foam,
White sails throw back the spray.

Press on, O British hearts of oak!
Steer north; cut off their van.
Clear, clear the decks, load every gun,
And stand firm every man.

6. Out roll the *Victory's* signal flags,
And words of high-souled beauty
Fly forth aloft—"England expects
Each man to do his duty!"
Three ringing cheers sound through the fleet
To hail that watchword glorious;
And every man already feels
Himself, his ship, victorious.

7. Outsails the *Royal Sovereign* far
The swiftest sailing ones;
Plunges into the crescent line
With double-shotted guns.
Rake, rake the *Santa Ana*, lads,
Leave her a shattered wreck;—
Hurrah! four hundred men lie dead
Upon the Spanish deck.

8. Starboard the helm and grapple close,
Lay ship alongside ship;
Soon shall the Spanish red and gold
Before the Red Cross dip.
Muzzle to muzzle every gun,
And face to face each man;
Brave Collingwood* hath led the lee,
And pushed into the van.

* Vice-admiral of the fleet. His ship was the *Royal Sovereign*. He took command on Nelson's death, and was afterwards made Baron Collingwood.

9. The white smoke fills the great calm sky,
The battle thunders roar;
Those mighty hulls will never see,
Unwrecked, the Spanish shore:
For Nelson, in the *Victory*,
Is bearing down full sail,
While shot and shell the *Bucentaur*
Sends o'er him thick as hail.

10. Bear down, O gallant *Victory*,
Subdue the dark-blue sea;
For Nelson leads the windward line,
And Collingwood the lee.
The *Temeraire* is close astern,
Ready each gun and man;
Northesk in the *Britannia* comes,
Bear down and break the van.

11. Bear down, O gallant *Victory*,
Lead on the windward line—
On where the sunlight strikes the hulls,
And makes them flash and shine.
Thy spars and ropes are crashing down,
Thy wheel is shot away,
And fifty officers and men
Fall on thy deck to-day.

12. Nigh twenty noble Spanish ships
Hold Nelson's line at bay;
Fourteen are grappling with the best
Of Collingwood's array.

The cheers, the crash of falling masts,
The great guns' deafening roar—
Can ye not hear it, Englishmen,
On England's rocky shore?

13. Close up! close up! in desperate fight,
Red Cross and Tricolor;
The great *Redoutable* sails in
To save the *Bucentaur!*
The *Bucentaur* and *Victory*,
Hard fighting face to face,
Their anchors locked, their great hulls rocked
In terrible embrace!

14. Woe to the dark *Redoutable!*
Woe to the Frenchman's ball!
We heard it hiss across the deck—
We saw our Nelson fall!
We had no time to sigh or weep,
We bore him down below;
Then rushed to show by British shot
The depth of British woe!

15. Two long sad hours the life-blood flowed,
Two long sad hours he lay;
But the dying face looked up and smiled
When England won the day.
And ere the deep-red sun had set
In purple waves of beauty,
He breathed the last inspiring word,
"Thank God, I've done my duty!"

16. The great black hulls dismasted swing
Across the darkening main;
Down, down they hauled the shot-pierced flags,
The flags of France and Spain.
And since that day St. George's Cross
Has ruled the dark-blue sea;
For Nelson led the windward line,
And Collingwood the lee!

ELIZABETH H. MITCHELL.

SUMMARIES OF THE LESSONS.

1. A WARRIOR QUEEN.—I.—The first attempt to conquer Britain was made by the great Roman general Julius Cæsar in the year 55 B.C. Cæsar only stayed in the country about three weeks. He returned in the next year, 54 B.C., when he conquered part of the country, but was unable to subdue it completely. The real conquest of Britain took place in 43 A.D. Britain was in great disorder at the time, and some of the kings asked help from the Roman emperor, who sent a large army, which overran Kent and the neighbouring districts in a few weeks. Britain, however, was not really conquered until after twenty years of hard fighting.

2. A WARRIOR QUEEN.—II.—Boadicea, Queen of the Iceni, was the widow of Prasutagus, chief of the Iceni, who lived in what is now the counties of Norfolk, Suffolk, Cambridge, and Huntingdon. Prasutagus had left half his wealth to the Roman emperor, in the hope that his wife and children would be protected by the Romans. They, however, seized all, and treated Boadicea and her daughters shamefully. While the Roman general Suetonius Paulinus was engaged in subduing the Druids on the island of Mona, Boadicea put herself at the head of a great revolt, in which all the people of Central and Eastern Britain joined. The Romans in the colonies of St. Albans and London were slaughtered in great numbers. When, however, Suetonius and his soldiers returned, they overcame the Britons in a great battle near London. It is said that Boadicea took poison and died (62 A.D.). Cowper has written a poem on the subject.

3. A GREAT AND GOOD GOVERNOR.—The Romans were masters of Britain for about four hundred years. The best Roman governor of Britain was Julius Agricola, father-in-law of the historian Tacitus. He served in the army of Suetonius against Boadicea, and was appointed governor in the year 78 A.D. In the same year he overcame the Druids; in 79 he conquered Britain as far north as the Tweed; in 80 he reached the Firth of Tay; in 81 he built a chain

of forts between the Clyde and the Forth; in 82 he beat the North British chief Galgacus, and thus subdued the whole island. In 84 he sailed round Britain and discovered the Orkney Islands, and in the same year returned to Rome. He made the British contented with Roman rule, and taught them the art of building houses, roads, and bridges, making pottery, glass, etc. Britain was very prosperous under his rule.

4. IDA OF BERNICIA.—When the Romans left the country, in 410 A.D., the Britons were a prey to the Picts and Scots, and to the English pirates who dwelt on the other side of the North Sea, about the mouths of the Ems, Weser, and Elbe, and in the peninsula of what is now Denmark. These pirates, who conquered Britain, belonged to three tribes—Saxons, Angles, and Jutes. Their first settlement in Britain was made by the Jutes in Kent about the year 449. Later on, Angle and Saxon chiefs followed with their war bands; and in less than a hundred and fifty years after the Romans had left the country Britain had become England. To illustrate the English conquest, the story of Ida is told. At the head of a fleet of pirate ships he seized the rock of Bamborough, off the coast of Northumberland, and fortified it. With Bamborough as his head-quarters, he proceeded to conquer the country.

5. THE "FLAME-BEARER."—Ida founded the kingdom of Bernicia, and before he died he ruled over all the land from the Tees to the Forth. One of his sons was known as the "Flame-Bearer." The Britons united against him under a chief named Urien, and overcame him in battle. Urien, however, was killed by a traitor, and then the "Flame-Bearer" won battle after battle. Six of Ida's sons followed him on the throne; and Ethelfrith, his grandson, overcame the kingdom of Deira and added it to Bernicia, so that his sway extended from the Humber to the Forth. The heir to the throne of Deira was Edwin, son of Ella, the late king. Edwin's ally, Redwald, defeated and slew Ethelfrith in a great battle (617), and thus became King of Northumbria. Not until more than two hundred years later did one king become overlord of the other kings. Egbert (800–836) was the first "King of the English."

6. THE STORY OF AIDAN.—I.—Paulinus, one of Augustine's missionaries, went to Northumbria with Ethelburga, the Princess of Kent, when she married Edwin. Paulinus had great success, and converted Edwin and many of the people to Christianity. He was, however, not the only Christian missionary in Northumbria. There were Christians in Britain as far back as the time of the Romans. Some of the Welsh—that is, the Britons who had been driven by the English into Wales—were Christians; and Ireland, which had been converted by St. Patrick, was the "home of the saints." Fifty years after the death of Patrick, a monk named Columba founded a monastery on the little

island of Iona, off the west coast of Scotland. This became the headquarters of a band of monks who went into all parts of Scotland on missionary journeys. At the request of Oswald, King of Northumbria, a missionary named Aidan was sent from Iona. He was made a bishop, and fixed his headquarters on Holy Island, off the coast of Northumbria. He had great success, and for seven years he worked hand in hand with Oswald.

7. THE STORY OF AIDAN.—II.—Thanks to Aidan, Northumbria became Christian, but Middle England (Mercia) remained heathen. Its fierce old king Penda was the great foe of Christianity. He defeated and slew Oswald at the great battle of Maserfield (642). At one time Penda almost made himself master of England. Oswald's son, Oswiu, defeated and slew Penda at Winwidfield in 655, and then Christianity made great headway all over the land. Aidan died in his church on Holy Island in 651. The monastery of Jarrow was founded by Aidan. It was famous as a school, and at its head was Bede, who is renowned as a historian and a scholar. He was born twenty-two years after the death of Aidan, and died in the year 735, just as he had finished translating the Gospel of St. John.

8. SWEYN, THE DANE.—I.—A third set of invaders gained a footing in the land about the end of the eighth century. They were the "Vikings," or creek-men, from Norway and Denmark. In the time of Alfred they became so powerful that the English king had to take refuge in the marshes of Somerset. By the treaty of Wedmore (879) Alfred and Guthrum, the Danish leader, agreed to divide England between them. The Danes had all to the east of England northward from the Thames to the Tees and westward to a line joining Reading with the Pennines. This was called the Danelaw, and it was the largest part of England. The remainder was under Alfred's sway. In the reign of Athelstan the Danes from across the North Sea and those of the Danelaw united, but were overthrown at the battle of Brunanburgh in 937. Fifty years later, in the reign of Ethelred the Redeless, the Danes once more began their invasions. Ethelred tried buying them off, but this only encouraged their raids.

9. SWEYN, THE DANE.—II.—Ethelred planned a slaughter of the Danes in England on St. Brice's Day, 1002. Amongst the slain was Gunhilda, sister of Sweyn, King of Denmark, who vowed vengeance on Ethelred. In 1013 he invaded England with a great army. The Danelaw yielded at once, and so did Wessex. Ethelred fled to Normandy, and Sweyn was master of England. He died in 1014, and his son Cnut was forced to return to Denmark. In 1015 Cnut invaded England, and was rapidly winning the country when Ethelred died, and his son, Edmund Ironside, was chosen king in his stead. Edmund was a brave and vigorous soldier, and he fought five fierce battles with

Cnut. In the last of them, at Assandun (1016), in Essex, Edward was badly beaten. A truce was made, and the rivals agreed to divide the land between them. Edmund was murdered before the year was out, and Cnut became sole King of England.

10. GODWIN, THE ENGLISHMAN.—Cnut, the younger son of Sweyn, reigned eighteen years, and during that time England had peace. He proved an excellent ruler, and is considered as one of the creators of England's greatness. After his death his two sons came to the throne, but both died within eight years; and the Witan, or meeting of the wise men, chose a king belonging to Alfred's line. His name was Edward, and he was the younger son of Ethelred the Redeless. The most powerful man in England during his reign was Earl Godwin. He was born about 990, but little is known of his boyhood. He joined the Danes, and was made Earl of Wessex by Cnut. After the death of Cnut's second son, Godwin was foremost in getting the Witan to chose Edward as king. Edward married Godwin's daughter, and Godwin's sons were made earls. Edward had been brought up in Normandy, and he filled all the chief offices of the state with Normans. Godwin was very angry, and did his utmost to keep out the foreigners, but in vain. He refused to punish the townsfolk of Dover for the riot raised by the followers of the Count of Boulogne. For this he had to flee to Flanders, and was outlawed by the Witan.

11. HAROLD OF ENGLAND.—I.—A year later Godwin returned with a fleet, and sailed up the Thames to London. The king's army refused to fight against him, and once more Godwin became the most powerful man in England. He died in the year after his return (1053). He was a brave, strong man. His son Harold was now looked upon as the coming king, for Edward was delicate and could not live long. Harold was a tall, handsome, clever man, and was much loved by the people of Wessex, of which he was earl after his father. He fought bravely in Wales, and showed himself a good general. About the year 1054 his ship was driven on the coast of France, and he fell into the hands of Duke William, who said that Edward had promised to leave the crown to him. William kept Harold as a captive, and he released him only after he had sworn an oath on the relics of saints to help William to become King of England.

12. HAROLD OF ENGLAND.—II.—Edward died in 1066, and the Witan chose Harold as king. William of Normandy was very angry, and at once began to get together a fleet and an army to invade England. At the same time Harold was threatened by another foe. His brother Tostig, Earl of Northumbria, had been banished because of his bad government, and now he joined Harold Hardrada, King of Norway. In September Tostig and the King

of Norway invaded Northumbria. Harold at once marched north, and met his foes at Stamford Bridge, near York, where he took them by surprise and defeated them with great slaughter.

13. HAROLD OF ENGLAND.—III.—Meanwhile the Normans had crossed the Channel, and had landed on the coast of Sussex. Harold marched south with all speed, and eighteen days after the battle of Stamford Bridge he reached the hill of Senlac, seven miles north of Hastings. He stationed his army on the hillside, at the foot of which he dug a ditch and built a stockade. On the highest part of the hill he placed the best of his soldiers round the banner of their king. The battle, which took place on Sunday, October 14, 1066, began with flights of arrows from the Norman archers, and an attack on the stockade by the Norman foot-soldiers, who were driven back time after time. A cry arose that William was slain, but the duke tore the helmet from his head to show his men that he was living. All day the battle raged, and still the English lines remained unbroken. William ordered some of his men to pretend to run away. They did so, and the English broke from their ranks and rushed after them. Then another body of Normans dashed within the stockade, and fought the English hand to hand. Still the English held out, until Harold fell slain by an arrow in the eye. At nightfall the Normans had won. Battle Abbey, founded by William, stands on the battlefield. Harold's body was buried in front of the high altar of Waltham Abbey. He had reigned forty weeks and a day. Though William had won the crown of England, the land was not really conquered until the overthrow of Hereward in 1071.

14. "THE LADY OF THE ENGLISH."—William the First reigned from 1066 to 1087. He was survived by three sons. The eldest of them was Robert, who became Duke of Normandy on his father's death. In 1106 he was taken prisoner by his brother Henry, and kept in prison at Cardiff until his death in 1135. The second son was William Rufus (the Red), who became King of England, and reigned from 1087 to 1100. He was shot in the New Forest. The youngest son was Henry, who was called the Good Scholar. He became King of England as Henry the First in 1100. In 1120 his son William was drowned in the *White Ship* while crossing from Normandy. The heir to the throne was then Matilda, Henry's daughter. The barons, including Matilda's cousin Stephen, the son of the Conqueror's daughter, agreed to have her for their queen after her father's death. Henry died in 1135, and Stephen caused himself to be proclaimed king. Soon the country was in a fearful state. Every baron in his castle acted as king in his own domain. Civil war, cruelty, and famine raged, and men said that Christ and His saints slept. Matilda's uncle, David, King of Scotland, marched south with a large army, but was overcome at the Battle of the Standard, near Northallerton, in Yorkshire (1138). Matilda

invaded England in 1139 with the help of her brother, Robert of Gloucester. In 1141 Robert of Gloucester fought a battle with Stephen near Lincoln. Stephen was defeated, and fell into the hands of his enemies, who imprisoned him. Matilda was now "The Lady of the English;" but she soon turned her people against her. The Londoners took up arms, and she fled, first to Winchester, then to Oxford, where she was besieged, but managed to escape to Normandy. In 1152 Matilda's son Henry invaded England, and in the following year peace was made at Wallingford, by which Stephen was to reign until his death, and then Henry was to succeed him.

15. THE GREAT ARCHBISHOP.—I.—Henry was twenty-one when Stephen died (1154), and he became king. He was a strong, far-seeing, hard-working man, but very passionate and revengeful. He was master of broad lands in France, which he received from his mother and his wife; indeed, he ruled all the country from the Pyrenees to the Tweed. In later years he added part of Ireland, and was overlord of Scotland. His chief work was to restore order, and to put down the barons. When this was done, he turned his attention to the Church, and chose Thomas Becket as his adviser and helper. Thomas Becket was born in 1118. He was the son of Gilbert Becket, a rich London merchant. Becket was trained by the monks, but he was also a clever horseman and good soldier. He rose rapidly in the Church, and when Henry became king he made Becket chancellor.

16. THE GREAT ARCHBISHOP.—II.—In Henry's day clerks who committed crimes could not be tried by the king's judges, but by the bishops, who could not sentence guilty persons to death. In this way many murderers escaped. Henry meant to alter this, and proposed to make Becket archbishop, so that he might help him to bring about a change. When Becket became archbishop he gave himself up entirely to the Church. Instead of helping Henry to take away the power of the Church, he now became its defender. Henry drew up a plan for making the same law apply to clergy and laymen alike. Becket agreed to it; but soon repented, and begged the Pope to pardon him for his weakness. This angered Henry greatly, and Becket was obliged to flee to the Continent, where he remained for nearly six years. In 1170 Henry had his eldest son crowned by the Archbishop of York. This should have been done by Becket as Archbishop of Canterbury. Becket was very angry at the slight, and threatened to cut off England from the Church. He pretended to make peace with the king, however, and in the autumn of the same year returned to England. At once he cut off the Archbishop of York and certain other bishops from the Church. When the news reached Normandy, Henry spoke hasty words of anger. Four of his knights, thinking to please the king, crossed to England and murdered the archbishop in his church, December 29, 1170.

17. STRONGBOW.—Henry was bitterly sorry for his rash words, and sent messengers to the Pope declaring his innocence. Afterwards he did penance at the tomb of Becket, and undertook the conquest of Ireland in order to please the Pope. Ireland was then in a state of great disorder. The kings were always fighting with each other, and the land was wasted by war and famine. One of these kings, Dermot of Leinster, was driven out of his realm for misconduct. He came to Henry and asked for help to win back his throne. Henry said the English barons might help him. One of the barons, the Earl of Pembroke, who was nicknamed Strongbow, got a small army of knights and archers together and crossed over to Ireland, where he soon won back Dermot's kingdom for him, and married Dermot's daughter. When Dermot died, Strongbow became King of Leinster. He soon looked like being king of all Ireland. In 1171 Henry crossed over to prevent Strongbow from building up a kingdom for himself. He also wished to make the Irish pay to Rome the tribute known as Peter's Pence. When Henry landed with his army at Waterford, most of the Irish kings yielded at once. Henry became lord of Ireland, and Strongbow was governor. The Irish bishops agreed to make the papal decrees known and observed, and the Pope freed Henry from blame in the death of Becket. Henry was never really King of Ireland. Four hundred years later the island had to be conquered anew.

18. HUBERT DE BURGH.—Henry the Second left two sons. The elder was the famous Richard of the Lion Heart; the second was John, the worst of all our kings. John reigned from 1199 to 1216. When he died the heir to the throne was his little son of nine, Henry the Third. Before John's death, Lewis, a French prince, had been elected King of England by the barons; but after the death of John many of the barons left Lewis. The chief Englishman of the time was Hubert de Burgh. He had been in the service of King John. In 1215 he was made chief-justice. In 1216 he defeated a great fleet which was crossing the Channel to the help of Lewis. This was the first great naval battle won by an English fleet. Lewis was driven out of the country, and in 1228 Hubert became regent. Four years later Hubert was driven from office by his enemies, who poisoned Henry's mind against him. He was imprisoned in the Tower, but was set free and allowed to spend his last days in peace. Hubert died in 1243. Henry proved such a weak ruler that the barons rose against him. Henry's army was beaten at the battle of Lewes in 1264, and for two years he was only king in name. In 1265 his son Edward won a battle, and replaced his father on the throne.

19. ROBERT THE BRUCE.—I.—Edward the First, the son of Henry the Third, became king in 1272. He ranks next to Alfred as a great ruler, and he was a good soldier and a wise general. He tried to unite all Britain under

his rule. Wales was overcome in 1282 and added to the English crown. Three years later Alexander the Third, King of Scotland, was killed by the fall of his horse. The heir to the Scottish throne was Margaret, the "Maid of Norway," then three years old. She died in 1290, and then thirteen claimants to the Scottish throne appeared. Edward was chosen as umpire, but he would not act until he was acknowledged as overlord of Scotland. He held a court at Berwick, and it was found that John Baliol and Robert Bruce had the strongest claims to the throne. Edward decided in favour of John Baliol, who was crowned in 1292. When Edward tried to act as overlord of Scotland, the Scots denied his right to interfere. In 1296 Edward marched an army into Scotland, and the Scots yielded to him. A governor was appointed, and Edward returned to England. William Wallace, a Lanarkshire landowner, then roused the nation, and at Stirling (1297) he defeated an English army. A year later Edward marched north and defeated Wallace at Falkirk (1298). Wallace was captured eight years later, and cruelly put to death. Scotland seemed to be crushed; but in 1306, Robert Bruce, grandson of the Bruce who had been set aside by Edward, took the field, and was crowned king at Scone. Few joined him, and for months he had to hide in the hills. At length, in 1307, he gathered an army together and overcame Edward's generals. Then the old king marched northward to make an end of Bruce, but died at Burgh-on-Sands, in the year 1307.

20. ROBERT THE BRUCE.—II.—Edward the Second, son of Edward the First, was a shiftless, thriftless coward, and his reign was a miserable one. He was ruled by favourites. The barons put one of these favourites to death, and took the government into their own hands. In Scotland, Bruce was carrying all before him, and in 1314 Edward marched north with 100,000 men, the largest army ever led against Scotland. Bruce occupied a strong position near Stirling, and made pits in the ground so that Edward's cavalry could not act. Bruce's spearmen thrust back the enemy time after time, and when the English thought they saw a new army approaching they turned and fled. Scotland was once more free. Edward's miserable failure in Scotland made his people despise him. Again he fell into the hands of favourites, and was deposed by the barons. He was murdered in Berkeley Castle in 1327.

21. "THE KING-MAKER."—I.—Edward the Third, who succeeded his father, Edward the Second, was fifteen years of age when he was crowned. He was a very warlike king, and he tried to conquer France. He won great renown, especially at the battles of Crécy (1346) and Poitiers (1356), and recovered the French dominions which King John had lost. Edward's famous son, the Black Prince, died before his father, and then the heir to the throne was Richard the Second, who was only ten years of age when he was crowned. He gave promise of being a cool, brave king; but he turned out a tyrant, and was deposed in

favour of his cousin Henry, who reigned during fourteen miserable years as Henry the Fourth. In 1413 his famous son, Henry the Fifth, came to the throne. He laid claim to the French throne, and in 1415 won the great battle of Agincourt. Five years later Henry was regent and governor of France. He died in 1422, and left a baby of less than twelve months old to succeed him. This baby grew up to be Henry the Sixth. Before he was twenty-eight years old all France was lost except Calais and the Channel Islands. The reign of Henry the Sixth is also noted for the outbreak of the War of the Roses, so called because of the badges worn by those who took the side of the houses of York (white rose) and Lancaster (red rose). The war chiefly arose out of the claims of the York and Lancaster families to the throne. Both were descended from sons of Edward the Third. Henry the Sixth was the head of the Lancastrians, and Richard, Duke of York, the head of the Yorkists. The first battle was fought in 1455, the last in 1485. The most powerful man in England at the time was Richard Neville, Earl of Warwick, who was known as "The King-maker." He took the side of the Duke of York, and really won the first battle of the war. After the battle the Duke of York ruled in place of the king, but in 1459, owing to the energy of Queen Margaret, war broke out again. At Ludford the Yorkists broke up without fighting, and Richard had to fly to Ireland and Warwick to Calais. Queen Margaret now ruled the country, but in a harsh and unwise fashion, and in 1460 Warwick appeared again and seized London. He took the king prisoner, and then an arrangement was made by which Richard was to be king after the death of Henry. Margaret would not agree to this. Once more she raised an army, and at Wakefield she overcame the Yorkists. Richard fell fighting, and his head, crowned with a paper crown, was set up on the walls of York. His son Edward was now leader of the Yorkists, but he was absent fighting in the west. Warwick rallied the Yorkists, but Margaret overcame them. The Yorkists, however, took the field again, and in 1461 won a great victory at Towton. The Lancastrians were completely routed, and Edward became king as Edward the Fourth.

22. "THE KING-MAKER."—II.—Edward the Fourth was idle and reckless, and fond of wicked pleasures. The real ruler of the land was the King-maker. Between 1461 and 1464 he crushed out the civil war. In 1464, to the great surprise of Warwick, the king said that he had married Elizabeth Woodville, the daughter of a staunch Lancastrian. Edward showed great favour to his wife's relatives, and he did this in order to bring on a quarrel with Warwick. In 1467 Edward dismissed all the King-maker's friends from office. Warwick got the king's younger brother Clarence to join him, and together they raised an army, which beat the king's forces. Edward himself was seized, and Warwick ruled the country for a year. Then Edward was set free, and soon his friends rallied round him and drove the King-maker and Clarence out of the kingdom. Warwick now

offered his services to Margaret. He joined the Lancastrians, and in 1470 he landed in Devonshire and raised the standard of Henry the Sixth. He carried all before him, and in a week he was master of England. Edward fled to the Continent; but in the next year he boldly returned, called his friends to his standard, and marched on London. At the battle of Barnet (1471) Edward was victorious. Warwick was slain, and Margaret's cause was lost. Edward reigned fourteen years, and was succeeded by his brother Richard, Duke of Gloucester, who murdered Edward's two young sons. In 1485 Henry Richmond, the heir of the Lancastrians, invaded England, and at the battle of Bosworth (1485) defeated and slew Richard. Thus the long misery of the War of the Roses came to an end.

23. THOMAS WOLSEY.—I.—Henry Richmond became king in 1485 as Henry the Seventh. He married the Princess Elizabeth, the heiress of the Yorkists, and thus united the Roses. Two sham princes were put up against him by the discontented Yorkists, but Henry overcame them both. The first, Lambert Simnel, was made a cook in the royal kitchen; the second, Perkin Warbeck, was hanged after troubling the realm for seven years. Henry strove hard to bring peace to his land. Towards the end of his life he showed himself to be a miser. He left a vast fortune to his son, Henry the Eighth, who came to the throne in 1509. The new king was fond of power, fond of work, fond of show, and fond of pleasure. He was a student and a statesman, and knew how to choose his servants well. For forty years he ruled as a tyrant without quarrelling with his people. The greatest man of his reign was Thomas Wolsey, the son of a butcher at Ipswich. He was born in 1475, and took his degree (B.A.) at fifteen years of age; at twenty-four he became a priest; at thirty-two he was chaplain to King Henry the Seventh. He won the favour of Henry the Eighth by his promptness and cleverness, and because he could amuse his master. In 1514 he was made Chancellor of England and Archbishop of York, and in the next year the Pope made him a cardinal.

24. THOMAS WOLSEY.—II.—Wolsey kept up great state, but he made many enemies by his pomp and show. His fall came about in the following way. Henry had married the widow of his brother Arthur. About the year 1527 he wished to marry Anne Boleyn, one of the queen's maids of honour. In order to get rid of his wife he began to have doubts about his marriage with his brother's widow. Wolsey promised to get the Pope to declare that Henry had never been really married to Catherine. The Pope dared not do this, as he did not wish to offend Catherine's nephew, Charles the Fifth. He therefore appointed Wolsey and another cardinal to try the case. Catherine refused to appear before the cardinals.

25. THOMAS WOLSEY.—III.—The case dragged on, and in 1529 the Pope called upon the king and queen to appear at Rome. This angered Henry, and he turned upon Wolsey, who was unpopular at that time. The office of chancellor was taken from him, together with his palaces and lands, and he was sent to live at York. A year later he was summoned to London to answer a charge of high treason. He set out for London, but died at Leicester of a broken heart (1530). The king's chaplain, Thomas Cranmer, now proposed that the question of divorce should be settled by the universities. This was done, and it was declared that the king had never been really married. Then he married Anne Boleyn (1533). The Pope drove Henry out of the Church, and thus a great quarrel arose between them. Henry made Parliament declare that the Pope had no power in England, and that the king and no one else was head of the Church of England. The followers of Luther—the Protestants as they were called, because they protested against the teachings of the Church of Rome—were rapidly growing in numbers. Henry, however, was never a Protestant. He died in 1547, and in the reign of his young son, Edward the Sixth, the English Church became a Protestant Church. In the reign of Mary the First the old faith was restored, but in Elizabeth's reign the Church again became Protestant, and has remained so ever since.

26. SIR HUMPHREY GILBERT.—Henry the Eighth had six wives and three children—namely, Mary, daughter of Catherine; Elizabeth, daughter of Anne Boleyn; and Edward, son of Jane Seymour. All these children came to the throne. Edward the Sixth died in 1553, in his sixteenth year. In his reign the Protestant cause was much advanced. Mary the First, who succeeded, was a Roman Catholic, and she did her best to bring back the power of the Pope during the five years of her dark, dread reign. In 1558 Queen Elizabeth came to the throne, and her glorious reign began. Elizabeth's reign was famous for great sailors, statesmen, and scholars. Amongst them was Sir Humphrey Gilbert, half-brother to Sir Walter Raleigh. Gilbert was born in Devonshire in 1539. He served in Ireland, and was knighted in 1570. In 1578 he obtained a charter to discover foreign lands and settle them. His first voyage to America was a failure. In 1583 he founded the first British colony in North America (Newfoundland). On his return voyage he was lost in a storm off the Southern Azores.

27. EARL STRAFFORD.—James the Sixth of Scotland became James the First of England on the death of Elizabeth in 1603. He held the belief known as the "divine right of kings," and soon came into conflict with his Parliament. In the reign of his son, Charles the First (1625–1649), this conflict grew into civil war. Charles ruled without a Parliament for eleven years, from 1629 to 1640. His chief instrument was Thomas Wentworth, afterwards made Earl of Strafford.

He was a man of great strength of mind and will. At first he opposed the king, and in 1628 led the House of Commons against the illegal doings of Charles the First. Then he went over to the king's side, and was made Viscount Wentworth and President of the Council of the North, in which post he used fine and imprisonment to overcome the northern gentry. In 1633 he was made governor of Ireland, and there raised an army to be used for crushing the English and Scottish peoples. In 1640 the king was obliged to call a Parliament, which tried Strafford on a charge of treason. He was found guilty, and executed, 1641.

28. JOHN HAMPDEN. John Hampden was a Buckinghamshire squire who strongly opposed the unlawful acts of King Charles the First. Hampden was born in 1594, and in 1621 became a member of Parliament. In 1627 he was imprisoned for refusing to pay a forced loan, and when the king ordered inland places to pay ship-money he refused to do so, and twelve judges sat to try his case. Seven decided for the king, and five for Hampden. The king thus won his case, but Hampden became very popular, and in the Parliament of 1640 he was the leading man. Hampden played a large part in bringing Strafford to trial. He was one of the five members whom the king tried to seize in 1642. When the Civil War broke out Hampden raised a regiment of foot (the "Green Coats"). He was wounded at Chalgrove Field, and died six days later (1643). He was a wise and good man, and a champion of British liberty.

29. THE "MAD CAVALIER." The "Mad Cavalier" was Prince Rupert, nephew of King Charles the First. He was born in 1619, and served as a soldier at sixteen years of age. When the Civil War broke out Charles made him general of horse, and he took part in all the chief battles of the war. In the first important battle (Edgehill) he showed great courage and dash, but not much judgment. He allowed his men to chase the Roundhead cavalry from the field, and follow them far from the scene of the fight. When his men returned at nightfall, they found that Oliver Cromwell had rallied some of his horse soldiers, and had made such a stand that the battle was drawn. Cromwell found that his horse soldiers were much inferior to those of the king, and he raised a regiment from the eastern counties of strong, religious men, who were called Ironsides. At the battle of Marston Moor (1644) the Ironsides beat Rupert's Cavaliers, and instead of leaving the field to pursue them they helped the foot soldiers in the centre to win a great victory. At the battle of Naseby (1645) Rupert again lost the day by letting his men leave the field to pursue the enemy. In 1646 Charles took away Rupert's command. Cromwell's "New Model" army defeated the king, who yielded to the Scots, and was by them given up to the Parliament. Charles was tried and executed in 1649.

30. ROBERT BLAKE. After the death of Charles the First a republic was set up in England. Scotland and Ireland were in arms against the new government.

Cromwell crushed the Irish, and in 1650 he defeated the Scottish army at Dunbar. Prince Charles led another army raised shortly afterwards into England; but Cromwell pursued him, and defeated him at Worcester (1651). Then Prince Charles fled to France. Cromwell now became master of the country. Part of the fleet took the side of the king, and under Prince Rupert gave much trouble. Cromwell chose Robert Blake, a cavalry colonel, as his admiral. Blake drove Prince Rupert from the British seas, and in 1651 destroyed the greater part of his fleet. In 1652 war began with the Dutch, whose admiral was Van Tromp. He fought a drawn battle with Blake off the North Foreland, and in November 1652 he forced the English to take refuge in the Thames. Several fierce battles followed, in one of which Blake was badly wounded. This prevented him from taking part in the great battle of July 1653, in which Van Tromp was killed. Peace was then made. In 1656 Cromwell declared war on Philip the Fourth of Spain, and Blake was sent to prey on the Spaniards. He did many gallant deeds, and in one battle burned or sank every ship of the Spanish fleet. In 1657 he died of fever on board his ship just as Plymouth was sighted. He was buried in Westminster Abbey.

31. SIR CHRISTOPHER MYNGS.—One year and nine months after Cromwell's death, Charles the Second was recalled to the throne of his fathers (May 1660). He was a bad, selfish man, and fond of wicked pleasures. He starved the navy, and when the Dutch war broke out again in 1665 disgraceful events followed. Charles gave the command of his fleet to General Monk, who had been the chief man in bringing him back to England, and to Prince Rupert. Neither of these men could handle a fleet. One of the most gallant officers in the navy was Christopher Myngs. He was the son of a shoemaker, and entered the navy as a cabin-boy. He became a captain in 1653, and in the same year captured a fleet of Dutch merchant vessels. In 1664 he was made an admiral, and the next year a knight. He led the van on the fourth day of the great naval battle off the North Foreland (1666), and in the fight received his death-wound. He was buried in London amidst the great grief of his sailors. De Ruyter, the Dutch admiral, totally defeated the English at the battle off the North Foreland, and some months later a Dutch fleet sailed up the Medway and burned Chatham. Peace was made with the Dutch in 1667.

32. "KING" MONMOUTH.—Charles the Second was succeeded by his brother, James the Second (1685), a convert to Catholicism, who wished to bring back the old religion. In trying to do so he lost his throne. A great attempt to drive James off the throne was made by the Duke of Monmouth, a son of Charles the Second. He was a Protestant, and had many supporters. He was joined by the Earl of Argyll, who landed in the Highlands in 1685, but few people joined him. He was captured and beheaded in the same year.

Monmouth landed at Lyme in Dorsetshire, and was joined by the miners and ploughmen of the west. At Sedgemoor, three miles south of Bridgwater, he was defeated by the king's troops and captured. Shortly afterwards he was executed. James sent a pitiless judge, named Jeffreys, to the west to try the rebels. More than three hundred persons were put to death after a mockery of a trial, and more than a thousand were sent to the West Indies as slaves. James then tried to secure religious freedom for all sects; but the people would not have it, and sent across the seas for a deliverer.

33. WILLIAM OF ORANGE.—The deliverer was William, Prince of Orange, the ruler of Holland. He was a Protestant, and had married Mary, daughter of James the Second. She also was a Protestant. In November 1688 William sailed for England with a large fleet. He landed at Torbay (November 5). Everywhere he was received with open arms. The king fled to France, and William and Mary were crowned as king and queen, after promising to maintain the rights of the British people. William was an excellent soldier. His first work was to conquer the Irish and the Highlanders, who were in arms for James. The Highlanders won a victory, but their leader, Viscount Dundee, was killed in the fight, and then the Highlanders went home. In Ireland, James had an army of 100,000 men. The Irish Protestants of the north were forced to take refuge in two towns, the chief of which was Londonderry. The 'prentice boys shut the gates, and the Irish besieged the town.

34. THE SIEGE OF LONDONDERRY.—When James arrived, the inhabitants of Londonderry greeted him with cries of "No surrender." Thanks to Major Baker and the Rev. George Walker, the townsfolk kept up their courage and held out for a hundred and five days. On July 28, 1689, a small fleet of ships "broke the boom," and brought food and help to the town. Shortly afterwards the besiegers withdrew, after burning their camp. In October, William's army landed in Ireland. On July 1, 1690, William defeated the Irish at the battle of the Boyne. The Irish, however, were not crushed until 1691, when Limerick yielded, and 11,000 Irishmen sailed to France to join the army of Lewis the Fourteenth.

35. GLENCOE.—After the death of Viscount Dundee, William said he would forgive the Highland chiefs who would swear to be faithful to him before January 1, 1692. All the chiefs took the oath except MacIan, chief of the Macdonalds, who did not take the oath until January 6. The Macdonalds had bitter enemies in the Campbells, and these men plotted to destroy MacIan and his clan. They got the king to allow them to put an end to "this set of thieves." A band of soldiers were sent to Glencoe, the home of the Macdonalds, and on a given day the soldiers fell on their kind hosts and slaughtered thirty-

eight of them. Others perished of cold and want on the mountains. This shocking deed is a black stain on William's memory. Mary died in 1694. During most of his reign William carried on war with Lewis the Fourteenth. He was thrown from his horse and died in 1702.

36. THE GREAT DUKE OF MARLBOROUGH.—William and Mary had no children, so the next heir was Anne, second daughter of James the Second. She was a simple, homely woman, but her reign was full of warlike glory. The greatest man of her reign was John Churchill, Duke of Marlborough. He was born in 1650, and entered the army when sixteen years of age. He soon proved himself a great soldier, but he was neither loyal nor honest. His wife was the great friend of Queen Anne. When war broke out again with Lewis the Fourteenth in 1702, he became commander-in-chief of the English and Dutch armies, and in the same year he was made Duke of Marlborough. He fought many famous battles and won them all. He never laid siege to a fortress that he did not take. His greatest battle was fought at Blenheim, on the river Danube, in Bavaria (1704). The French were driven out of Germany. Many other battles were fought, and in 1712 the war came to an end. After the battle of Blenheim, Parliament gave Marlborough a large sum of money to build Blenheim Palace at Woodstock. Before peace was made Marlborough was in disgrace. The queen drove away his wife, and he himself was accused of taking bribes from the contractors to his army. He was obliged to give up all his offices. He died in 1722.

37. THE FATHER OF THE AMERICAN NATION.—Queen Anne left no child to follow her on the throne, and Parliament passed an Act making Sophia, granddaughter of James the First, heir to the throne. Her son, George the First, became king when Anne died in 1714. George the First was a German, and could not speak a word of English. He was succeeded in 1727 by his son, George the Second; who was followed in 1760 by George the Third, grandson of George the Second. George the Third was the first king for more than seventy years who "gloried in the name of Britain." His reign lasted nearly sixty years. The chief event in it was the loss of the American colonies. When George the Third came to the throne, Canada and the rest of North America from the Atlantic Ocean to the Mississippi belonged to Britain. The thirteen colonies along the Atlantic had been largely founded by men who had left their native land because they had not the freedom to worship as they pleased. After the long war with France and Spain, the British Government in 1765 attempted to tax the colonies by ordering them to pay stamp duties. The colonists opposed this, and the Stamp Act was done away with. In the next year, however, taxes were placed on tea, glass, paper, etc. The colonists were very angry indeed, and in 1773 there was rioting at Boston when the "tea

ships" arrived. The British Government punished the people of Boston, and took away the Parliament of the colony. Soon after this war broke out. The American general was George Washington, one of the best and most unselfish men who ever lived. He was born in 1732, and at the age of nineteen fought against the French in America. He was forty-one years of age when he was appointed commander-in-chief. The first battle of the war (Bunker Hill, 1775) was won by the British, but in the next year the Americans had some success. Then they threw off the British yoke, and on July 4, 1776, formed themselves into the United States of America. When the war had gone on for six years the British general was forced to yield, and two years later (1783) peace was made. Washington became first President of the United States. He died in 1799.

38. LORD CHATHAM.—William Pitt, afterwards Earl of Chatham, took the part of the Americans on this side of the Atlantic. He was born in 1708, and when twenty-seven years of age entered Parliament, where he soon became famous as a great speaker. In 1756 war broke out between the British and French. It was badly managed at first, but in 1757 Pitt became the real head of the government, and then matters began to mend. In the years 1758 and 1759 Britain had great success. Canada was won, India was won, and when George the Second died in 1760 nearly all the French possessions beyond the seas were in the hands of the British. George the Third forced Pitt to resign, and he entered the House of Lords as Earl of Chatham. It was in the House of Lords that he pleaded for peace with the Americans. When the French began to help the Americans, Parliament wished to make peace on almost any terms. King George was opposed to this, and so was Chatham, who went to the House of Lords on April 7, 1778, and in a powerful speech urged that peace be made with the Americans, so that all the forces of the country could be turned against the French. The effort was too much for him. He was carried home, where he died. His monument is in Westminster Abbey.

39. THE BARBER WHO BECAME A KNIGHT.—In 1780 Chatham's great son, William Pitt, entered Parliament. At twenty-four he was Prime Minister, and held the reins of power for nearly the rest of his life. His work was to direct the war against Napoleon. He did not live to see the French emperor overcome, but died nine years before the battle of Waterloo. After 1815 the country had peace for forty years. During this time it became the workshop of the world. When Canada was won there were no cotton factories in Lancashire such as there are to-day. Cotton spinning was done at home by hand-power on a machine which spun one thread at a time. A spinning-jenny which could spin a number of threads at the same time was invented. Richard Arkwright, a barber of Preston, invented a spinning-machine, and in 1769 set up a spinning-mill at Hockley and at Cromford in Derbyshire. His machines were

driven by water-power. His cotton cloth soon became famous for cheapness and good quality. When Watt made his steam-engines, Arkwright used them in his mills. Arkwright was knighted in 1740. In the course of time Britain became the chief cotton, woollen, and linen workshop of the world. About the same time iron was smelted with coal, and we became great manufacturers of iron and steel. Canals and roads were made, and our shipping increased until Britain rose to be the busiest and richest nation of the world.

40. CAPTAIN COOK.—The chief parts of the British Empire are Canada, India, South Africa, Australia, and New Zealand. You already know how Canada, India, and South Africa were won. Australia and New Zealand were added to the empire by Captain James Cook. He was the son of a labourer living at Marton, in North Yorkshire. At twelve years of age he went to sea. In 1755 he joined the navy as a seaman, and rose to be master in 1759. Then he sailed as captain of the *Endeavour* to the South Seas to observe the passage of the shadow of the planet Venus across the face of the sun. On the way home he visited New Zealand, and mapped its coasts. He claimed it in the name of George the Third. In 1769–70 he coasted along the eastern shores of Australia, and planted the British flag on what is now New South Wales. In 1771 he returned to England by way of the Cape of Good Hope. In 1772 he sailed south again with two ships, and visited New Zealand and many of the Pacific Islands, and returned to England in 1775. In the next year he sailed on his last voyage. In 1779 he was murdered by the natives of one of the Sandwich Islands. He was the real father of the Australian Colonies. In 1787 a party of prisoners and soldiers was sent to settle in Australia. After suffering much hardship the colony began to grow. In 1851, after the discovery of gold, Australia became rich and great. New Zealand was not settled by white men until 1840. There was much fighting to be done with the Maoris, but in 1869 they were overcome, and New Zealand began to be a happy and prosperous land.

41. THE SLAVES' FRIEND.—George the Fourth came to the throne in 1820. He was succeeded by William the Fourth, who reigned from 1830 to 1837, when Queen Victoria began to reign. In William the Fourth's short reign many wrongs were righted, and the condition of the people improved. For the first time a number of large towns had members of Parliament, and the right of voting was given to a larger number of people. The greatest and the best deed of William's reign was the freeing of the negro slaves. These slaves were seized in Africa and carried across the sea to America, where they were sold to the planters, and had to work in the plantations. Thomas Clarkson first began to plead for the freeing of the slaves about the year 1785, and one of the men who joined him was William Wilberforce, member of Parliament for Hull.

Wilberforce was persuaded to take up the cause of the slaves by William Pitt. From 1787 until 1834 he worked hard for this object. So successful was he that in 1807 the government stopped the slave trade. Not until 1833, however, was an Act passed to free the slaves. After August 1, 1834, all children under six became free at once, and all others after seven years. Twenty million pounds were paid to the planters for the loss of their slaves. Wilberforce died in 1833. Soon after his death the Act freeing the slaves was passed.

42. THE CHILDREN'S FRIEND.—Though the negro slaves were freed, the children employed in the great factories and coal pits of the north of England were little better than slaves. They were sent from the workhouses to the factories, and were put to work at six or seven years of age. They were overworked, underfed, and untaught. Good men began to try to improve the lot of the children, and after a time Parliament passed a number of laws which made their condition much better. One of these men was Lord Shaftesbury, who is known as the "Children's Friend." He was born in 1801, and in 1826 he entered Parliament. He did much for the factory children and the chimney sweeps, and later in his life he helped to start ragged schools. Now there are good free schools for all, and every child is compelled to attend school.

THE END.

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